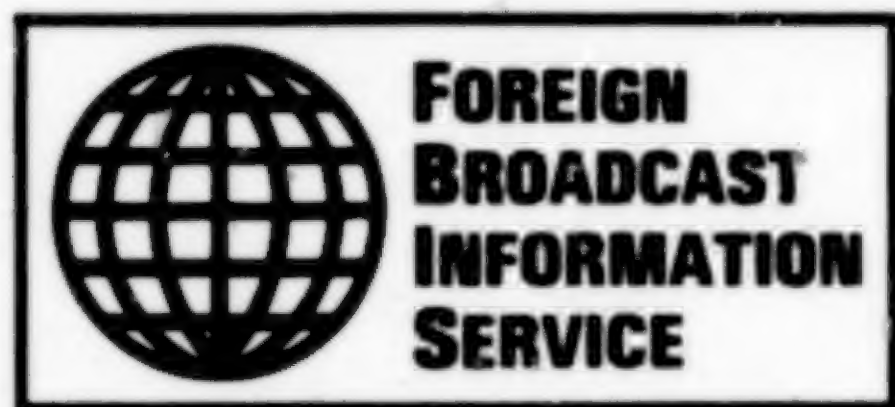




Daily Report

East Asia

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Japan

Spokesman Welcomes Release of Beijing Dissidents

OW1105112990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1012 GMT
11 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 11 KYODO—A Foreign Ministry spokesman on Friday said Japan welcomes the Chinese Government's decision Thursday to release 211 people arrested during last year's prodemocracy demonstrations and hinted the move would facilitate the eventual unfreezing of a pledged 810 billion yen loan package. "The Government of Japan welcomes this as a part of the efforts of the Chinese side for the improvement of its external relations," said spokesman Taizo Watanabe in a statement to reporters. "This is something we do appreciate and something which should be reflected in the actions we will be taking," he added.

Watanabe was apparently referring to steps related to Japan's unfreezing of its third yen loan package for China, which was suspended in concert with Western allies after the bloody crackdown on prodemocracy demonstrators last June. But the spokesman would not indicate whether Japan plans to release the loans before or after the upcoming summit of seven advanced industrialized democracies in Houston on July 9-11.

Expressing satisfaction that the United States and other countries have also favorably reacted to the news of the announced release, Watanabe said, "The atmosphere is improved as a result of this announcement."

Watanabe reiterated Japan's position that "mutual efforts" are needed to repair relations between China and Western nations. He said that on Japan's part, the recent visits to China of former government officials, including former Prime Minister Sosuke Uno, represent a Japanese "willingness to look forward to further normalization."

The spokesman also noted as a positive sign China's announcement that it is now in the process of scrutinizing the cases of an additional 431 prisoners. The first batch of 573 were released last January. But he noted concern that no moves have yet been made with regard to prodemocracy demonstrators under arrest in parts of China other than the capital.

Asked if there remains a divergence of views among the various concerned ministries on the timing of the China loan, Watanabe said the differences are only "in nuance and tone." "People like to wear socks of different colors," he said. "But, on the whole, socks serve the same purpose."

He noted that Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, who was outspokenly in favor of the early implementation of the third yen loan, "seems to be changing his tone" and is now making remarks on the side of "caution."

Watanabe said Japan has still not received any word from Beijing concerning Zhang Zhenhai, a suspected hijacker who was extradited to China last month amid stiff resistance from some quarters. The spokesman said Japan expects to be eventually informed by the Chinese Government of the judicial procedures to be taken in Zhang's case. If no explanations are forthcoming, Japan will make inquiries after an indefinite waiting period, he said. China has implicitly vowed that Zhang will not be put to death.

'Goddess of Democracy' Said Unlikely To Dock

OW1305132790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0953 GMT
13 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—The Goddess of Democracy radio ship is unlikely to make a port call in Japan as indicated by documents the ship submitted to Taiwanese authorities Sunday, a Chinese dissident said. Yang Zhongmei, a representative of the Japan chapter of the Paris-based Federation for a Democratic China, said he is "99 percent" sure that the boat will not make the reported port call in Kobe.

"We haven't received any word (about the port call), and I am 99 percent sure there won't be a port call in Kobe," he said.

The ship, which docked at the northern Taiwanese port of Keelung Sunday morning, has listed Kobe as its next port of call in documents submitted to Keelung port authorities. Yang ruled out the Japanese port call, saying "the Japanese Government, unlike the French, is not likely to allow the ship into Kobe even if we wanted to."

The 1,140-ton ship, named after a statue erected by student demonstrators in Beijing's Tiananmen Square before last June's bloody military crackdown, is operated by a French crew.

Yang said he believes that the Goddess will get supplies in international waters from private vessels from Taiwan, thus making port calls in Japan or elsewhere unnecessary.

Government Spokesman Comments

OW1405103190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1000 GMT
14 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 14 KYODO—Japan will accept a visit by the Goddess of Democracy, a ship which is to be used for radio broadcasts to China, despite Beijing's denunciation of governments which cooperate with the ship or its plans, a top government spokesman said Monday.

"As long as the ship does not violate Japanese domestic law, I see no problem in a visit," Spokesman Misoji Sakamoto told a regularly scheduled news conference. "Our position has nothing to do with what the ship does to China," the chief cabinet secretary said. Sakamoto said he has not heard of plans for such a port call.

A spokesman for the ship said Sunday that it does not plan to make a port call in Kobe, western Japan, as specified in an earlier itinerary. He did not elaborate.

Chinese President Yang Shangkun has denounced the ship as a tool of propaganda aimed at toppling the Chinese Government. Yang has also said China is opposed to any government that assists the 1,140-ton vessel, sponsored by the French-based ship of China association.

The refitted cargo ship, named after a statue that became the symbol of prodemocracy demonstrations in Beijing's Tiananmen Square last June, arrived in Keelung in northern Taiwan on Sunday, 57 days after leaving France. It plans to broadcast interviews with Chinese dissidents, news, and music to China from international waters in the Taiwan Strait.

Taiwanese authorities have said the ship will not be allowed to reenter its ports if it engages in "piracy broadcasts." The vessel is operated by a French crew and includes reporters among its passengers.

Antimonopoly Law Review Forum To Be Created

OW1205102190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0920 GMT 12 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 12 KYODO—The government has decided to establish a forum to study revision of the antimonopoly law agreed on at the recent Japan-U.S. trade talks to eliminate structural barriers impeding imports to Japan, sources said Saturday. The sources said the panel, to be chaired by Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto, will submit a report to the government by the end of this year.

The study will center on how much to raise penalties against companies forming a cartel in violation of the antimonopoly law. The United States claimed the law fails to prevent formation of cartels because of low penalties.

Under the law, manufacturing companies which were found to have formed a cartel illegally are required to pay 2.0 percent of total sales recorded while the cartel was in force as penalties. The rate is 1.0 percent for retailers.

The United States demanded that penalties be raised to about 10 percent. In the structural impediment initiative talks, Japan agreed to revise the law by the end of fiscal 1991 so as to remove trade practices hindering imports. The sources said the forum will be made up of about 20 scholars and representatives of economic and consumer groups.

Onna Village Residents on Urban Combat Training

OW1305100990 Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO in Japanese 9 May 90 Morning Edition p 1

[Excerpts] Onna—The U.S. Forces in Okinawa [USFO] were originally scheduled to conduct live ammunition exercises at the urban combat training facilities (at Range 21) of Camp Hansen Training Area near Onna Village beginning 8 May. The USFO have announced that the first day exercise will be suspended but it has not said anything about the exercises scheduled from 9 to 13 May. However, the USFO notified the village on the afternoon of 7 May that more exercises would be conducted at Ranges 7 and 21 from 14 to 19 May. Regarding this notice, local residents opposed it and said that the exercises "should not be approved." Local residents will start 24-hour monitoring beginning the night of 9 May. Thus, they have indicated their readiness to stop the exercises. [passage omitted]

So far, the village has been notified of the schedule of the exercises that are conducted at Range 7 around the clock all year round. In the future, it is observed that the USFO will inform the village of the exercises at Range 21 as it has done for general exercises, and it is expected that the U.S. troops may conduct urban combat training at any time.

Isamu Nagamine, chairman of the Village Staff Members Union, stated as follows: "If the notice on exercises may come at any time, it means that we will never know when U.S. troops will come. For the time being, we will continue our monitoring all night. When U.S. troops appear, we will notify our residents with sirens or microphones asking them to get together to stop the exercises." [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, the public relations official of the Naha Defense Facilities Administrative Bureau stated on the afternoon of 8 May that "when U.S. troops issue notices on general exercises, we understand that no definite time for training during this period will be indicated." Then, he made the following comments: "In order to avoid trouble during the training period, the authorities have decided on settling this issue through consultations."

Editorial Urges End to Training

OW1205234590 Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO in Japanese 9 May 90 Morning Edition p 5

[Editorial: "Stop Urban Combat Training"]

[Text] Training at urban combat training facilities on Camp Hansen in Onna-son is about to resume. An exercise originally planned for 8 May was called off, but the U.S. forces are positioned to conduct exercises using the facilities at any time after 9 May.

Live ammunition is used in the exercises, even though the facilities are located close to residential areas. We must say that these exercises are extremely dangerous. We would like this type of exercise to be banned forever.

We would like to see the facilities themselves removed. We request a sincere response from the authorities of the U.S. forces in this regard.

Residents of Okinawa Prefecture as well as Onna-son have been opposed to the construction of the urban combat facilities. These facilities have been the target of a controversy in which some people have been injured in their attempts to fight off the construction. Authorities of the U.S. forces may think that there is no way to avoid using the facilities, particularly after all the trouble involved in their completion. However, we do not think this should be a question of saving face. The issue is that the present facilities at the site are not fit for live ammunition exercises. That is why we call for reconsideration on the matter.

We feel that both authorities of the U.S. forces and the Japanese Government are aware that these facilities are not appropriate. The fact that there currently is an agreement on moving the facilities to another site may show that there is an awareness among them that the training facilities are not suitable. If that is the case, it would not be too difficult to advance this understanding a step further and to decide to stop using the facilities, taking in the wish of the Onna-son people.

It is said that the facilities will be moved, but we also have a question about this. We said this when the removal plan was first made known, but we must say again that the removal is not a solution to this problem. What probably is being studied is the possibility of moving the facilities a little deeper into the mountains. However, we cannot think that danger from exercises using live ammunition can be prevented by such a measure.

In talks with the Defense Facility Administration Agency Naha Office, the U.S. forces have said that they will exert the maximum possible efforts to prevent danger by taking such measures as adjusting firing angles. However, past history tells us that, although such preventive measures supposedly have been taken, accidents still have occurred.

There have been countless instances of explosions because of careless handling of explosives or bullets flying into places which could not have even been thought possible. There is no such thing as absolute safety when live ammunition exercises are conducted. To prevent accidents, there is no other way but to stop conducting training. That may be the reason the prefectural government, which says it cannot tell the U.S. forces not to conduct training, is asking the forces "to refrain from conducting exercises where live ammunition is used."

We would like to ask: Can we not do without this urban combat training? The rationale may be that troops must be prepared for every contingency, but the rationale foregoes our understanding. The current training is said to be aimed at preparing troops not for a war but a combat situation preceding a war. Hence, it is apparent

that the training is conducted on the assumption there will be a terrorist or urban guerrilla act. Where do they suppose such a situation will break out? We certainly hope that they do not suppose this situation will break out in this prefecture or somewhere else in Japan.

If they insist that training must be conducted, we would like it to be carried out in the United States. Everyone knows that this prefecture is a small island. This simply cannot be a safe place for training. Furthermore, Onna-son extends along a sea coast with villages scattered across. The danger of accidents from stray bullets is very great there.

The entire population of Onna-son, from the mayor on down, are getting ready to block the exercises. We are worried that a situation calling for mobilizing prefectural riot police could break out again. We would like to have the understanding and cooperation of the authorities of the U.S. forces so that such a situation will not happen.

Sea Disaster Pact With ROK To Be Finalized

*OW1205134290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1155 GMT
12 May 90*

[Text] Tokyo, May 12 KYODO—Japan and South Korea have agreed to conclude a long-pending agreement on sea disaster and salvage aimed at promoting cooperation in salvage activities in the seas around both nations, Japanese Government sources said Saturday. The official announcement will likely coincide with the state visit by South Korean President No Tae-u May 24-26, the sources said.

Negotiations at the working level are almost completed, the sources said. The agreement will not include a clause stating division of sea regions that each side is responsible for conducting salvage activities but will merely state that both countries will collaborate in sea rescue, the sources said.

A territorial dispute between Japan and South Korea over Takeshima Island, known as Dokto in Korean, in the Sea of Japan, remains unresolved.

Sea rescue activities have been conducted on local government basis until now, with Japan's regional maritime safety office in Nagasaki Prefecture and South Korea's maritime police in Pusan taking responsibility over sea accidents in the region.

Schedule for ROK President's Visit Detailed

*OW1305085290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0610 GMT
13 May 90*

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—South Korean President No Tae-u will have the first round of talks with Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on May 24 and the second round on May 26 during his three-day official visit to Japan, government sources said Sunday. No, the second South Korean head of state to Japan following

the first by his predecessor Chon Tu-hwan in 1984, will arrive in Tokyo on May 24 by special plane.

After a welcoming ceremony at the Akasaka State Guesthouse the same day, No will meet Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko at the Imperial Palace and hold talks with Kaifu at the guesthouse and attend a dinner party at the Imperial Palace.

On May 25, the president will attend a luncheon hosted by business groups and meet former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, who is also chairman of the Japan-South Korea Parliamentarians' Group. He will then attend a reception hosted by South Korean Ambassador to Japan Yi Won-Kyong and a dinner party hosted by Kaifu.

On May 26, the president will hold the second round of talks with Kaifu. After a farewell meeting with the emperor and empress, the president will meet the press at the Japan National Press Club. He will leave Tokyo for Osaka to meet South Korean residents of Japan there before departing for home, the sources said.

No is scheduled to speak at the Japanese Diet as the first South Korean president to do so, but the time and date for the speech have not yet been decided, they said.

Politicians Visit ROK To Study Land Policy

OW1305085490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0653 GMT 13 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—Ruling and opposition party policy makers left for Seoul on Sunday for talks with their South Korean counterparts on ways to manage land policy. During a three-day stay in South Korea, the Japanese policy makers will exchange views with South Korean Government, ruling Democratic Liberal Party and opposition party policy makers to seek ways to reverse surging land prices.

Among the Japanese policy makers are Michio Ochi, vice chairman of the Policy Affairs Research Council of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, Shigeru Ito, chairman of the Policy Board of the Japan Socialist Party, Takenori Kanzaki, chairman of the Policy Board of the Komeito, and Kansei Nakano, chairman of Policy Board of the Democratic Socialist Party.

The South Korean Government has introduced a policy imposing much heavier taxes on larger housing lots than the standard set by the government. Land prices in large South Korean cities have soared since the September 1988 Seoul Olympic games.

Housing prices, including land prices, have currently averaged 53.3 million yen in Tokyo, 8.62 times the annual average wage for Japanese workers. Land policy analysts say Japanese workers are considered unable to buy a house when housing prices exceed more than five times their annual wage.

UAE President Arrives in Tokyo 13 May

OW1305085590 Tokyo KYODO in English 0705 GMT 13 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—United Arab Emirates President Zayid Bin-Sultan Shaykh Al Nuhayyan arrived in Tokyo Sunday for a four-day state visit, and was welcomed by Crown Prince Hiro at Haneda Airport. While in Japan, the president will meet Emperor Akihito and hold talks with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu.

He is expected to promote bilateral cooperation to help bring peace and stability to the Middle East and strengthen economic and technological cooperation between Japan and the Gulf states.

Government sources said the president, in talks with Kaifu, will agree to the Japanese invitation of 75 UAE leaders in political, economic and mass communication fields and the dispatch of Japanese scholars and experts to the UAE. They will also agree to hold seminars aimed at promoting understanding between the two countries.

After meeting the emperor on Monday, he will attend a luncheon hosted by major economic organizations and a dinner party at the Imperial Palace. The president will meet Kaifu on Tuesday evening. After completing his official visit Wednesday, he will stay in Japan unofficially until Saturday before leaving for Indonesia, the sources said.

Central Bank Governor Views Yen Stabilization

OW1105115390 Tokyo KYODO in English 1039 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 11 KYODO—Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno said Friday he would like to see the yen stabilize at a higher rate in accordance with a recent agreement among the Group of Seven (G-7) monetary powers. Mieno said it was a "great achievement" that the G-7 nations issued a statement after a meeting of their finance chiefs in Washington on Sunday that the yen's present exchange rate level "may have undesirable consequences" for the world economy.

The Japanese currency finished the week in Tokyo trading at a seven-week closing high of 154.15 yen against the U.S. dollar earlier in the day.

Mieno told a news conference upon his return from Washington that the yen would not have stopped falling without the G-7 statement, issued by the finance ministers and central bankers of the United States, Japan, West Germany, Britain, France, Canada, and Italy. Referring to the day's sharp rise in the yen's value, he said recent rate swings have been too sharp, adding that it is necessary to wait and see for a while if the Japanese currency settles on an upward track. "I expect the yen to rise in line with the G-7 statement," he said.

Mieno said he obtained the impression during a series of monetary meetings in Washington that West German

monetary authorities are confident of keeping inflation under control after German monetary union slated for July 2.

He cited as the greatest result of the meetings an agreement to boost financial resources of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) by 50 percent.

Finance Ministry Official Welcomes Yen's Rise

OW1105142590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1252 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 11 KYODO—A senior Finance Ministry official welcomed the yen's sharp rebound Friday and said the Japanese currency appears to be undergoing a correction of its recent "excessive" fall. Vice Finance Minister Sadaaki Hirasawa told a news conference that the yen has drawn support from a recent statement by the seven richest nations expressing support for the Japanese currency.

The statement, issued after a meeting of finance chiefs of the Group of Seven (G-7) countries, said the yen's present exchange rate level "may have undesirable consequences" for the world economy.

Hirasawa also attributed the yen's recovery to expectations of lower U.S. interest rates. Given a rise against the West German mark as well as the U.S. dollar, the yen's excessive depreciation appears to be in the process of correction, he added.

The Japanese currency closed the week at 154.15 yen against the dollar in Tokyo trading Friday for a 2.60 yen surge from Thursday. It was the highest closing level in more than seven weeks.

Kuriyama Interviewed on Magazine Article

OW1205075290 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1400 GMT 11 May 90

[From the "Midnight Journal" program: Interview with Administrative Vice Foreign Minister Takakazu Kuriyama by newscasters Kazuma Yamane and Aiko Doden, at the NHK studio in Tokyo—live]

[Text] [Yamane] With ROK President No Tae-u's visit to Japan and other diplomatic events around the corner, the diplomatic posture of Japan today has become the object of public attention both at home and abroad.

This [video shows Yamane holding a magazine whose cover reads GAIKO FORUM] is the May issue of GAIKO FORUM. In this magazine the administrative vice minister for foreign affairs expresses his views on Japan's diplomatic posture for the next decade. He writes that it is necessary for Japan to expand from the passive diplomacy of a minor country to the diplomacy of a big power. Thus the article is being extensively discussed now.

[Doden] Mr Takakazu Kuriyama, administrative vice minister for foreign affairs, who wrote this article, is here with us today.

[Yamane] Thank you for being with us.

[Doden] Thank you.

[Yamane] In my personal opinion, Japanese diplomacy has heretofore been little recognized. To date, the impression has been that Japan is not carrying out an identifiable or confident foreign policy. This has been very irritating. After reading this article, however, I gained the impression that Japan is determined to carry out a new foreign policy. Is that what you meant?

[Kuriyama] What I wanted to say most in that article is that, since it has grown quite big internationally, Japan naturally assumes greater proportionate responsibilities. Japan must carry out such responsible diplomacy. In actuality, Japan is held responsible for the peace and prosperity of the world and it has the potential to do so. Therefore, Japan must be active in making its wisdom available and exerting efforts for building peace and securing prosperity for the world. Japan must carry out such a foreign policy. That is what I wanted to say most.

[Yamane] You mean to say that heretofore Japan has not done enough in those areas?

[Kuriyama] Yes.

[Yamane] In the article you used the term big power. I am afraid that the term big power diplomacy might tend to be easily misunderstood. Would you explain that point?

[Kuriyama] Since I figured the very questions you have just raised would be brought up, I called for big power diplomacy without pretending to be a big power. I did not advocate that, since it has suddenly become an economic giant, a rich country, Japan should impose what it likes on others with the power of money. And, of course, Japan is not a military power. I said what Japan ought to do is to join other countries in establishing a new world order by contributing its capability, resources and wisdom within the framework of international cooperation. This is the diplomacy Japan should carry out from now, I said.

[Yamane] As a *modus operandi* or foreign policy, it would be very simple for a big power if it used money or armed force. Do you mean to say that Japan has an alternative course?

[Kuriyama] I think that Japan can survive only through international cooperation. In the prewar days Japan, committing a gross mistake, placed too much confidence in military power and tried to change the international order by dint of force. The world today suspects that Japan is now trying to do the same thing by dint of money.

[Yamane] I agree with you.

[Kuriyama] Therefore, we must carry out work in cooperation with other countries in accordance with the principle of international cooperation. This is big power diplomacy without acting like a big power, and that is what I wanted to say.

[Doden] Big power diplomacy without acting like a big power. Now, there are various factors surrounding Japan. In what ways will we be able to see that change from now on?

[Kuriyama] Although I can cite a variety of examples, with regard to the issue of world peace, for instance, or the issue of peace in Cambodia and Asia, which is close to us, Japan will be participating in it actively. Eastern Europe may be a little far away from Japan, but the changes there—democratization and liberalization—are issues related to world peace and, therefore, Japan will actively participate in them. Central America will be the topic of international debate from now on. I think Japan needs to speak actively about peace and rehabilitation in Central America. It is not that Japan should not take part in Central America because it is far from Japan. Japan should speak actively about such issues as world peace and the world economy, as well as about environmental preservation.

[Yamane] Well, our time is running short. Japan has begun saying this, although heretofore it had not done so. I think that, in a way, Japan's remaining silent suited the convenience of advanced nations to a certain extent. Now that Japan has begun speaking out, don't you think that it will be possible they will feel uncomfortable and say we don't have to interfere yet?

[Kuriyama] I think there is no longer such a possibility. The world is, rather, concerned that Japan might remain silent, as before, and pursue economic interests only. The world, rather, is saying Japan is welcome to actively express its opinion and cooperate with concrete deeds in the areas I mentioned. I think the United States, Europe and developing countries all welcome this. Therefore, I do not in the least think it is necessary to worry about being criticized for interfering.

[Yamane] The article gave us hope the cabinet will launch a new foreign policy. We will be looking forward to seeing how it develops. Thank you very much.

[Kuriyama] Thank you.

[Doden] Thank you very much.

Soviet 'Experts' on Disputed Islands Memorandum

OW1305132590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1024 GMT 13 May 90

[Text] Moscow, May 13 KYODO—A Soviet memorandum annulling the 1956 Japan-Soviet communique on the return of two Soviet-held northern islands to Japan in the event a bilateral peace treaty is signed, is illegal, four Soviet experts on Japanese affairs said in a Soviet weekly published Saturday.

The experts—V. Lukin, G. Kunaze, K. Sarkisov, and I. Tyshetskiy—expressed their views on two of the four Soviet-held northern islands—Habomai and Shikotan—in a forum published by the Soviet liberal weekly OGONEK. The two other islands in the group which were taken over by the Soviet Union at the end of World War II are Kunashiri and Etorofu.

Tyshetskiy, a researcher with the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Academy on Diplomacy, said a government cannot unilaterally discard a communique that has been signed with another country.

Kunaze said the Soviet Union had no legal justification to scrap the 1956 communique. He said Moscow should retract the memorandum for the sake of fairness.

Moscow scrapped the 1956 promise to return Habomai and Shikotan to Japan on grounds of changes in the international security situation following the renewal of the Japan-U.S. security treaty in June 1960.

USSR Seeks Delay in Payment for Steel Pipes

OW1305091490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0739 GMT 13 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—The Soviet Union has asked for a delay of between several months to a year in its payment of some 100 million dollars for large diameter steel pipes from Japan, according to Japanese trading house sources. The value of exports of Japanese steel pipes to the Soviet Union reached nearly 500 million dollars last year and settlements of account have previously been made without any significant delay.

But payments by the Soviet Union have begun to fall behind schedule from around February this year and Japanese trading houses have asked the Soviet Bank of Foreign Economic Affairs to issue a letter of guarantee on unsettled accounts.

The Soviet request for postponement of payment has come at a time when Japanese trading houses were discussing with steelmakers how to cope with the situation, the sources said. "The delay in payments for steel pipes—a major trade item between Japan and the Soviet Union—is indicative of the worsening hard currency situation at the bank," one executive at a trading company said. "The Soviet economy is worse than generally conceived."

Firm To Help Mongolian Electronics Venture

OW1105112290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0909 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 11 KYODO—Victor Co. of Japan, a leading consumer electronics company, said Friday it has agreed to assist a Mongolian electric and electronics manufacturer produce color television sets, jointly with the major trading house Nissho Iwai Corp.

The agreement will make Monel, the first private company in Mongolia, the first color TV producer in the country, company officials said. Through Nissho Iwai, Victor is to provide knockdown kits to Monel, which is to assemble the parts with technical assistance from Victor, they said.

The Ulaanbaatar-based concern will begin production in September, with annual output targeted at an initial 10,000 sets. Production will be increased to 20,000 sets in three years.

JAL, FRG, Belgian Firms in Courier Business

*OW1105144290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1204 GMT
11 May 90*

[Text] Tokyo, May 11 KYODO—Japan Airlines Co. (JAL) and two other companies from Japan and West Germany will set up partnership with DHL group of Belgium in the international courier business, JAL officials said Friday.

JAL, Nissho Iwai Corp., a major trading house, and Deutsche Lufthansa of West Germany are expected to sign an official contract on the alliance with the Brussels-based courier firm within the month, the officials said. They said the company will invest 450 million dollars to acquire a 60 percent stake in DHL's Asian and European subsidiaries and 20 percent interests in the U.S. division. It will pay an extra 50 million dollars for use of the DHL trademark, they said.

JAL, which has been strengthening ties with European transport companies in a bid to enter the integrated distribution business, aims to further expand its network and take advantage of DHL's 1,153 delivery bases in 183 countries around the world. The deal is also expected to be beneficial to DHL. The Belgian firm, which is yet to be allowed entry into Japan, will be able to have access to JAL's dominant international air service market in Japan, a major advantage in competition with its rival, Federal Express Corp. of the United States.

Pact on Four New Air Routes Reached With UK

*OW1205080490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0702 GMT
12 May 90*

[Text] Tokyo, May 12 KYODO—Japan and Britain have agreed to open up four new air routes between the two countries, one departing from Nagoya, another from Manchester and two between Japan and Hong Kong, Transport Ministry officials said Saturday. The two sides also agreed to increase the number of weekly passenger and cargo flights between the two countries from the current 17 to 21, according to a report from London where Japanese and British officials held air talks between Tuesday and Friday.

One of the two new Japan-Hong Kong route will link Chitose on the Japanese northernmost island mass of Hokkaido with the British colony, while the Japanese site for another Japan-Hong Kong route has not been decided. Cited as candidate sites are Nagasaki, Oita and Kumamoto, all on the southernmost island mass of Kyushu, the officials said.

During the London talks, the two sides reached the new accord on condition that flights to the New Tokyo International Airport at Narita will not be increased because departure and arrival flights there are nearing their capacity, the officials said.

LDP's Ozawa Says Opposition Must Debate Reform

*OW1105144590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1312 GMT
11 May 90*

[Text] Tokyo, May 11 KYODO—Ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa said Friday that opposition parties would have to join in discussions on a proposed package of election reforms, and promised to respect their opinions. The opposition has criticized LDP reform plans, saying they are designed to keep the ruling party in power.

In an exclusive interview with the KYODO NEWS SERVICE, Ozawa said, "Essentially, the opposition cannot fail to go along" with talks on the proposed election reforms. While dismissing the idea of a word-by-word debate on the proposals, Ozawa said a conclusion satisfying to both sides would be reached. The new electoral system, he said, would seek to correct the discrepancies of the present mid-size district system and make possible a change of administrations.

Repeating past goals set by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, Ozawa said he hoped preparation of the reform bills would be completed by this November, so that they could be submitted to the next regular session of the Diet at year's end.

Ozawa also said that a change in codes governing campaign funding was essential to achieve democratization within political parties. But a "certain degree of benefits" for those attached to political parties was not unconstitutional, he said. Loose restrictions on campaign funding, coupled with multiseat election districts are often cited as reasons for excessive spending by political candidates.

Ozawa accompanied Kaifu earlier in the week in a series of meetings with LDP faction leaders to seek support for the reform measures. The faction leaders gave guarded approval, warning that the changes would have major political implications.

The proposals trim the number of seats in the House of Representatives and call for a combination of single-seat districts and proportional representation to replace the present multiseat system.

Reportage on Takako Doi Visit to FRG, France

WA1405150890

For reportage on the visit by opposition leader Takako Doi to the Federal Republic of Germany and France, please see the Federal Republic of Germany section of the 8 May West Europe DAILY REPORT and the France section of the 14 May West Europe DAILY REPORT.

Mongolia**Official Views U.S. Visit, Bilateral Relations**

OW1105120390 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] First deputy prime minister of Mongolia and chairman of the State Socioeconomic Development Committee, Mr. Byambasuren, who headed the Mongolian Government delegation to the eighth United Nations General Assembly session has been interviewed by UNEN correspondent. Byambasuren said in his interview that the session discussed in particular an economic aid of the developed countries to the developing countries with large debts along with the establishment of a special aid fund. During the U.S. visit, although there was not signed any bilateral agreement documents, said Byambasuren, it can be said that we have agreed on the basic principles of bilateral trade and economic relations.

G. Ochirbat Interviewed Before USSR Visit

OW1205125190 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 12 May 90

[Interview with Gombojabyn Ochirbat, chairman of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, with unidentified reporter; date and place not given—italicized portions in Mongolian fading into English translation]

[Text] Chairman of the Presidium of the People's Great Hural of Mongolia, Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat, and Chairman of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] Central Committee, Gombojabyn Ochirbat, will start Monday their official working visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet President Gorbachev. In this connection, Chairman of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Gombojabyn Ochirbat has granted an interview to a Mongolian Radio correspondent. Here we have the English version of this interview:

Asked about his party's state of affairs following the April extraordinary congress, Mr. Ochirbat said: *(?Quite) the atmosphere is being [word indistinct] in the country following the MPRP extraordinary congress. The MPRP has made some changes in its program and rules with a view of renewing its identity [word indistinct] democracy*

further promoting openness and pluralistic views of democratization in inner-party life. This created legal foundations of renewing the party activities, said Mr. Ochirbat.

The MPRP, in cooperation with the government, has worked out basic guidelines for immediate use in settling social problems of the population and improving the living standard of the people. All of this helped to develop in the people the hope in the irreversibility of the renewal process. [Words indistinct] the MPRP extraordinary congress created favorable conditions for accelerating and deepening renewal in all aspects of the country's life.

But here, I'd like to say that these positive changes are not to the liking of certain group of people who put their selfish interests higher than the common interests. Some political forces attempted to distort and hamper the party and government efforts for our [word indistinct] the emerging critical situation in the country. No doubt the Mongolian population condemns their acts of distortion and support the MPRP and the Mongolian Government as their ruling party leader.

Concerning his party's attitude towards new political forces, Mr. Ochirbat says the following: *I think the latest [word indistinct] of many different parties, unions, and associations is the fruit of the policy of renewal and democracy pioneered by the MPRP, says Mr. Ochirbat. They declare their main aim was to promote democracy and from the people's law-abiding and to rule [words indistinct] democratic society in the country. This coincides with that of the MPRP and [word indistinct] I think there is no serious ground to conflict, says Ochirbat. In its relationship with newly set up political parties and associations, the MPRP proceeds on the principles of mutual respect and cooperation. The MPRP as a ruling party holds particular duties and responsibilities before the society. That's why in its activities and its relationships with other parties and unions the MPRP proceeds from these duties and responsibilities. This may not always be to the liking of new political forces, says Ochirbat.*

Commenting on the forthcoming July elections to the People's Great Hural of Mongolia, Mr. Ochirbat had to say the following: *The MPRP will work at after serving its [word indistinct] about ruling political party in the country on foundations of multiparty system before the coming July elections will be a serious task [as heard] [word indistinct] says Mr. Ochirbat. As regards the new democratic forces, they have been informed to form a coalition. But I think its too early to call them an opposition to the MPRP. Each of these political forces has its own social structure, ideology, and chooses different manners of conducting their activities. The future [word indistinct] shows whether they are a real opposition to the MPRP or not, says Mr. Ochirbat.*

On May 14, you are going to leave for Moscow at the invitation of the Soviet president. What would you say in this connection?

The Mongols have been given respect in their friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union. The traditional

all-around Mongol-Soviet cooperation has been proved, so it can't be broken. The MPRP [word indistinct] expect that (?perfecting) the bilateral cooperation mechanism and raising its efficiency on the basis of [words indistinct] equality, mutual benefit, and in the interest of the renewal process in the two countries noted Mr. Ochirbat.

Soviet Reportage on Leaders' Visit to USSR

WA1405121890

For Soviet reportage on the visit to the USSR by Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat, chairman of the Presidium of the MPR People's Great Hural, and Gombojabyn Ochirbat, chairman of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, including their talks with CPSU General Secretary Mikhail S. Gorbachev and interviews with a PRAVDA correspondent and a Moscow Radio correspondent, see the Northeast Asia section of the 14 May and subsequent issues of the Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

Further on Ninth Session of People's Great Hural

Constitutional Amendments Approved

OW1105120290 Ulaanbaatar International Service
in English 0910 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] The ninth regular session of the People's Great Hural of Mongolia has ended Thursday and approved a law on amendments to the Mongolian Constitution and a law on political parties of Mongolia. Chairman of the Presidium of the People's Great Hural Ochirbat delivered the main report on the renewal of the supreme state governing body of Mongolia and noted that the draft law on amendments into the Mongolian Constitution will be an important move towards adapting the state structure of the country. It's the question of forming a small hural and institution of the post of president of Mongolia. He noted that the drafting envisages the insurance of supreme rights of the people's powers through the People's Great Hural as the highest state power body. The People's Great Hural is defined in the draft as the highest representative body of state power. Concerning the creation of small hurals, Mr. Ochirbat noted the expediency of total [words indistinct] the specifics of the country, its requirements, and possibilities in forming a new state governing system.

The draft proposes to institute the small hurals, composed of 50 members besides its chairman, deputy chairman and secretaries. A member of a small hural must be a competent statesman capable to independently settle urgent issues of socioeconomic, political, legal, and spiritual life of the country. The president of the country in his turn must work to ensure mutual understanding and cooperation among different groupings and political forces as well as guarantee national unity. The draft envisages the election of the president by the People's Great Hural. These and other provisions of the draft law are aimed at warning the development of personality cult.

A law on political parties discussed at the session is a quite new law of Mongolia. The need of adopting such a law was dictated by the appearance of many different parties in the country in order to regulate their equal legal activity. The approval of this law by deputies will surely be of great significance in democratization of Mongolian political system, raising the role of the state, strengthening a law-governed state and in the development of pluralism of views in the country. The law on political parties became effective since the day of its approval. Thus, according to this new law, the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party addressed an application to the Supreme Court of Mongolia about its registration. Other political parties of Mongolia will immediately follow this suit.

Thus the ninth session of the People's Great Hural became an important move in the renewal of Mongolian state structure and consolidating legal foundations of law-governed state system in this country.

G. Ochirbat Registers Party

OW1105130190 Ulaanbaatar International Service
in English 0910 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] The ninth session of the People's Great Hural of Mongolia ended in Ulaanbaatar Thursday. After further discussion, deputies to the People's Great Hural unanimously approved the laws and amendments into the Mongolian Constitution and on political parties. In accordance with the new law on political parties, Chairman of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] Central Committee Gombojabyn Ochirbat has put an application to the Supreme Court of Mongolia on his party's registration. The application says that the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party should be officially registered as being historically founded on March 1, 1921. The application notes that although the party was first named the Mongolian People's Party, it should be registered as the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and the party will not allow any other political parties to call themselves by any of these two names.

Hural Chairman on General Elections

LD1105110390 East Berlin ADN International
Service in German 0329 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Ulaanbaatar (ADN correspondent)—A general election will probably be held in Mongolia at the end of July. Lodongiyn Rinchin, chairman of the People's Great Hural, told ADN today that the exact date will be set within the next few days. According to the electoral law, there must be 75 days between the announcement of the date and the election. It is expected that the first free election in Mongolia with candidates from different political parties will be held on the last Sunday in July. As well as the People's Great Hural and the area, town, and district parliaments, a People's Small Hural will be elected for the first time and will function as a permanent legislative and supervising parliament.

At the current meeting of the People's Great Hural, a law was passed on an amendment to the Constitution and on political parties after a heated and very controversial discussion. With this, the multiparty system that has existed de facto in Mongolia since mid-February was legally sanctioned.

Representatives of the opposition Coalition of Democratic Forces were also involved for the first time in the drafting of the laws. It was only a week ago that the authorities and the extraparlimentary Coalition of Democratic Forces, in a round of negotiations accompanied by hunger strikes and sit-ins, reached agreement on the formation of a consultative council at the People's Great Hural in which there will be joint work on draft laws for Mongolia's political renewal.

'Sources' Say P. Ochirbat Likely President

OW1205125590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1051 GMT 12 May 90

[Text] Beijing, May 12 KYODO—The first president of resembling the Western type will debut in Mongolia, a nation ruled by one of the world's oldest communist parties, some time after late July, Western diplomatic sources said Saturday. Mongolia's supreme decision-making body, the People's Great Hural, decided at its session Thursday to elect the president following a reshuffle of its members in free elections slated for late July, the source said. The parliament agreed to establish a presidential post as part of political reforms to change from communist one-party rule to a multiparty system, they said. Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat, chairman of the Presidium of the people's deputies, is most likely to win the presidential election, the sources said.

The People's Revolutionary Party proposed the establishment of the presidency in March after giving up its 66-year-old monopoly on power following mass pro-democracy demonstrations.

The president, who is the head of state, will be empowered to veto legislation passed by parliament besides signing and promulgating laws. But, the parliament can override his veto in case the majority agreed again to pass the laws.

MPRP Central Committee Plenum Opens 11 May

OW1205124990 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 12 May 90

[Text] The Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] Central Committee held its 11th plenum Friday. Chairman of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Ochirbat delivered a report on the tasks of party organizations in the period of preparations for and holding of elections for people's hurals at all levels. The plenum has adopted an (?appeal) on the forthcoming elections for central and local organs of state power.

National Progress, Green Parties Set Platforms

LD1305161690 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1058 GMT 13 May 90

[Text] Ulaanbaatar (ADN)—The main goal of the Mongolian Party of National Progress [PNP] is overcoming the crisis, guaranteeing national progress, and creating a humane and democratic society. This is stated in the party platform passed on Sunday at the first PNP congress in Ulaanbaatar.

The party intends to fight for the development of all forms of ownership and the transition to a market economy with free enterprise. On foreign policy, the party intends to be a proponent of a neutral Mongolia, to respect the independence of all other countries, and to develop normal relations with them on a basis of equality. The party constitution identifies the PNP as a political organization which represents the basic interests of the Mongolian people and which supports national rebirth, a variety of opinions, and creativity. The congress was attended by 637 delegates. The PNP is a member of the Coalition of Democratic Forces formed at the beginning of April, which intends to fight the communist Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party at the general election at the end of July.

On the same day, the Mongolian Green Party constituted itself in Ulaanbaatar. It sees itself as part of the worldwide green movement. At the founding party congress, at which the constitution and platform were passed, several speakers came out in favor of returning to the old traditions of the people, who had lived in complete harmony with nature. Apart from this, the party intends to support the preservation of national assets and to cooperate with international environmental organizations.

North Korea

U.S. Officials Make 'Violent, Absurd Remarks'

SK1405054690 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0017 GMT 14 May 90

[NODONG SINMUN 14 May commentary: "Aggressors' Arrogant and Discourteous Violent Remarks"]

[Text] Taken aback by the fact that the South Korean youth and students and people in general have shown a growing tendency to wage an anti-U.S. struggle, the U.S. imperialist aggressors, bellowing, have recklessly made arrogant and discourteous, violent and absurd remarks.

This is shown by what Solomon, assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, who sneaked into South Korea in order to command, on the spot, a meeting to inaugurate the No Tae-u ring's Democratic Liberal Party; and Gregg, U.S. ambassador in Seoul, who escorted him, babbled at Kimpo Airport on 11 May. Solomon told reporters that the volley of firebombs at the American Cultural Center in Seoul on 9 May was the

act of a very few demonstrators. Also, Gregg made the blaspheming remark that because of spoiled brats their cultural center building was in flames for as long as 30 minutes.

Needless to say, these violent remarks by the U.S. imperialists' servants are the intolerable defilement of our national dignity and the South Korean people who are walking along the righteous road toward the anti-U.S. cause of independence, and are a vicious challenge to anti-U.S. and independent forces in South Korea.

It is well known that, at a time when the people have shown a growing tendency to harbor anti-U.S. sentiment and to wage an anti-U.S. struggle in South Korea, whenever the U.S. Embassy and the American Cultural Center in Seoul and U.S. military facilities were attacked, the U.S. imperialist aggressors mobilized the puppet clique to suppress the South Korean youth and students and, people in general, while threatening them and defiling them as lemmings, spoiled brats, and monkeys as did Wickham, former commander of the U.S. forces occupying South Korea, and such people as Walker and Lilley, former ambassadors in Seoul.

The repeated attacks and arson attempts on the American Cultural Center in Seoul were caused by the U.S. imperialists' colonial fascist military rule. They are not the acts of a few demonstrators. They are the expression of resolute resistance against the U.S. imperialist aggressors who, while occupying South Korea for almost half a century and carrying out a policy of colonial subjugation, have resorted to all sorts of national contempt, oppression, and colonial tyranny. They are also the explosion of grudges and hatreds that the South Korean people have harbored for a long time and the expression of their strong patriotic will to regain national dignity and independence and their freedoms and rights as human beings. They are also glorious patriotic acts that show the South Korean people's unanimous will to achieve independent, democratic reunification after driving the United States out. Also, the South Korean people have branded and denounced the United States as an arch-enemy, not a friend, and as an aggressor and plunderer, not a protector and benefactor.

That day, while disclosing their true colors as wolves, the servants of aggression were shocked and exasperated at the demonstrators' attack on their cultural center, and thus, implicitly, threatened the South Korean people. After disclosing the colors of an old fox, they even enumerated honeyed words in order to soothe the South Korean people's anti-U.S. sentiment, saying that the United States will promote dialogue with South Korean university students and dissidents or that it is very interested in improving relations with them. However, the U.S. imperialist aggressors must clearly know that no threat using guns and bayonets or cunning appeasement maneuvers can break the South Korean people's will for the anti-U.S. cause of independence.

The fact that the South Korean people are raising the flames of struggle under the banner of the anti-U.S. cause of independence is a consequence that has arisen from the painful bloody lesson—that they learned from real life—that they will not be able to achieve national dignity and independence, democracy in society, or the reunification of the country without bringing an end to the U.S. imperialists' occupation of South Korea and their colonial rule. Therefore, they set fire to the American Cultural Center even while under a terror-ridden oppressive rule in which guns and bayonets are recklessly wielded and in which prisons and gallows await them. They set fire to the American Cultural Center, launched surprise attacks on the U.S. imperialists' institutions for aggression, and waged other bold struggles.

The longer the U.S. imperialist aggressors are ensconced in South Korea, the more violently the South Korean people's anti-U.S. sentiment will explode. Squarely seeing the South Korean people's will and the reality in South Korea, the U.S. imperialists must give up the anachronistic illusion of settling in South Korea forever and must return to their den without delay before being driven out by the angry people's anti-U.S. resistance.

Anti-U.S. Attacks in South 'Proper Punishment'

*SK1305081390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0803 GMT
13 May 90*

[“Outbursts of U.S. Imperialist Servants Upset by Anti-U.S. Struggle”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 13 (KCNA)—Solomon, assistant secretary of state for East-Asian and Pacific affairs, who had flew into South Korea, grumbled before reporters on May 11 that demonstrators' attack on the “American Cultural Centre” in Seoul on May 9 was an “act of a tiny handful of elements” and Gregg insulted South Korean students and people, claiming that it was burnt by “hooligans,” according to a report.

Their outbursts show that Gregg, and Solomon, who had been busy visiting here and there to weave wicked plots to lull the mounting anti-U.S. sentiments of South Korean students and people on all accounts as soon as he flew into Seoul, eventually revealed their crafty nature in a fit of anger when the situation did not turn out as they wished.

It is too natural that South Korean students and people are now directing the spearhead of their attack to the U.S. Embassy in Seoul, the U.S. ambassador's residence, U.S. Army units, “American Cultural Centre” and other U.S. institutions.

This is a proper punishment meted out to the U.S. imperialist aggressors who, occupying South Korea, have trampled down the sovereignty of the people, conceived the “security-oriented politics” to maintain the colonial military fascist dictatorial system, rigged up the merger of the pro-American reactionary conservative forces and violated the elementary democratic freedom of the

people and, at the same time, blocked the Korean people's cause of national reunification, bringing the clouds of a nuclear war to the sky over the Korean peninsula.

If the U.S. imperialists do not want to become the target of South Korean people's attack, they should go home without delay, taking their aggression forces and nuclear weapons along.

Remains of U.S. Soldiers To Be Handed Over

SK1405052890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0522 GMT 14 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 14 (KCNA)—The competent organ of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will hand over some unearthed remains of U.S. soldiers to the U.S. side through U.S. congressmen at Panmunjom at eleven May 28.

This step is in accord with the consistent position of the DPRK Government for a humanitarian solution of the problem of the remains of U.S. soldiers listed missing during the Korean War.

U.S. 'Imperialist Wolves' Commit 'Beastly Act'

SK1305082790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0819 GMT 13 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 13 (KCNA)—A U.S. imperialist aggression army soldier recently committed a beastly act of driving his car over a passer-by in Taegu, North Kyongsang Province, South Korea. The victim died on the spot.

Hitting out at this, NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today brands this as one more unpardonable murderous atrocity revealing the bestial nature of the U.S. imperialist wolves.

The news analyst says:

The criminal cases of the U.S. imperialist aggressor troops in South Korea during the first three months of this year number more than 170, but none of them has been taken into custody.

This clearly tells that South Korea is, indeed, a colony under the military occupation of the U.S. imperialist wolves where they lord it over.

The national dignity and sovereignty ruthlessly trampled underfoot, the truculent military terror rule, catastrophic economic dependency, extreme political non-rights and miserable slavish living conditions of people in South Korea—This is results of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces' occupation of South Korea.

Nevertheless, the traitor No Tae-u defends their crimes and tyrannical acts by law and even stoops to such an infamy as offering fund for the maintenance of the aggression forces, seeking to prolong his remaining days by clinging to the coattails of the U.S. imperialist master.

This is a never-to-be-condoned criminal act that could be committed only by traitors who are not concerned at all for the lot of the country and the nation but want to prolong their filthy remaining days by currying favor with their master.

The South Korean students and people will never pardon the U.S. imperialist aggressors' all tyrannical acts but further intensify the anti-U.S. Struggle for independence and surely bring down a sledge hammer of revenge to bear upon the aggressors.

U.S. Cannot Frighten or Subdue Cuban People

SK1205050490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0431 GMT 12 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 12 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today in a commentary hails the start of manoeuvres of the next stage following the successful close of the first stage of the "Cuban Shield" military exercises which began on May 2, face of the anti-Cuban moves of the U.S. imperialists.

Noting that the current manoeuvres are a demonstration of the indestructible unity and cohesion and the militancy of the Cuban people rallied close around the Communist Party of Cuba headed by Comrade Fidel Castro, the news analyst says:

The "Cuban Shield" military exercises are a self-defensive step to counter possible anti-Cuban armed invasion of the U.S. imperialists, the chieftain of aggression.

It is an entirely legitimate exercise of sovereignty for the Cuban people to stage military exercises in defence of the socialist system and the inviolable territory in view of the grave situation created by the U.S. imperialists' reckless moves for armed invasion.

The U.S. imperialists, regarding Cuba which upholds the banner of socialism in the Western hemisphere as a thorn in the flesh, are making vicious attempts to undercut her ever increasing influence.

They are kicking off an unprecedented war racket, massing huge aggression forces in an inalienable territory of Cuba, Guantanamo, now under their illegal occupation and around Cuba.

This has created a dangerous situation in Cuba where a war May break out any moment.

No one can vouch that the U.S. imperialists will not do the same against Cuba as what they did when they undertook invasions of Grenada and Panama after massing their armed forces under the pretext of military exercises.

It is foolish of the U.S. imperialists to try to stamp out socialist Cuba with armed forces.

The Cuban people, strong in the spirit of independence against imperialism and loyal to the cause of socialism,

are closely united around the Communist Party of Cuba headed by Comrade Fidel Castro and struggling against the anti-Cuban moves of the U.S. imperialists, firmly determined to safeguard socialism at the cost of their lives.

With no military adventure can they frighten or subdue the Cuban people.

Further U.S. Aerial War Games in South Noted

*SK1105153090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1505 GMT
11 May 90*

[“U.S. Imperialists and South Korean Puppets Frantically Stage Aerial War Games Against North”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists brought to their air base in Kunsan scores of “FA-18” pursuit-assault planes from their bases overseas between 09:00 and 14:00 on May 9, according to military sources.

On the same day, they staged an electronic warfare exercise with the mobilization of various types of helicopters for this purpose including “EA-6” electronic jamming planes.

From around 09:00 to 18:00 on May 9 and 10 the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets let fly formations of fighter-bombers, assault planes, pursuit-assault planes, VTOLs, airborne warning and control planes and helicopters for an electronic warfare in the sky above Kangnung, Yaju, Yongdong, Uljin and other areas in a frenzied joint air strike exercise against the north.

The U.S. imperialists brought formations of “C-123” and “C-130” transport planes carrying “commandos” of their aggression forces from overseas bases to the sky above the chechon area and staged a feverish para-trooping exercise from around 13:00 to 14:00 May 10 aiming at infiltration into the operational depth of the northern half of Korea in “case of emergency”.

Thus a total of 1,100 warplane flew above South Korea in various aerial war exercises over May 9-10.

On the other hand they brought an Okinawa-based “E-3” early warning plane to the air above South Korea at around 09:45 May 9 and let it conduct an aerial espionage on objects in the depth of the northern half of Korea, making shuttle flights from east to west along the Military Demarcation Line.

Japan's ‘Aim To Revive Colonial Empire’ Exposed

*SK1405111590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1030 GMT
14 May 90*

[“Diplomatic Offensive To Be ‘Leader’ of Asia”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 14 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today strips bare the sinister purpose sought

by the Japanese ruling quarters to realize the old dream of the “greater East Asia coprosperity sphere” by becoming the “leader” of the Asian region. It says in a signed article:

During his recent visit to Asian countries Japanese prime Minister Kaifu said that Japan would “promote economic aid and cultural exchange for peace and prosperity in Asia” and manifested Japan’s intention to actively interfere in the political settlement of the disputes in this region. This revealed the scheme of Japan to strengthen her diplomatic position in Asia for the present, aiming to be an international power.

The Japanese ruling quarters openly claim that Japan should play “a leading role worldwide as a major power in the post-cold war global order”.

Kaifu’s recent trip was arranged to expand Japan’s influence in the Asian region by taking advantage of the erosion of other powers’ influence.

Having an eye on the position of an international power, Japan resorts to her economic potential as a major means of diplomatic offensive.

In her “cash diplomacy” and “cheque diplomacy”, the Japanese ruling quarters are pursuing a very vicious aim to revive the old colonial empire by seizing the economic artery in the vast region of Asia and becoming the “leader” of this region.

To build the “greater East Asia coprosperity sphere” is the invariable strategic target of the Japanese militarist forces.

Having set up many subsidiary companies and branch banks in the vast area of Asia and the Pacific, the Japanese monopolies urgently demand that Japanese armed forces take the field to defend the safety of the colossal capital and economic interests lying scattered there.

The Japanese reactionaries are hell bent on arms buildup and war preparations to sharply expand the military operational zone to the vast expanse of Asia and the Pacific and overpower and dominate this area militarily.

Japan is emerging as a dangerous force of aggression and war in Asia.

The developments in Japan show that the Japanese reactionary ruling quarters are trying to repeat the past history of aggression.

The Asian people are heightening their vigilance against this.

Son Song-pil in Moscow Comments on South, Japan

*SK1405025790 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
1300 GMT 12 May 90*

[Text] A news conference was held in our country’s embassy in the Soviet Union on 11 May, in connection

with the letter to the political parties and organizations of the whole world, which was adopted at a joint meeting of the political parties and public organizations of the DPRK, and with our country's Foreign Ministry spokesman's statement denouncing the Japanese authorities for further reinforcing their provocative maneuvers against our Republic and the General Association of the Korean Residents in Japan [Chongnyon].

Placed in the forefront of the news conference site was the portrait of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

The news conference was attended by reporters of the Soviet newspapers, press, and radio.

Son Song-pil, our country's ambassador to the Soviet Union, spoke at the news conference. He, above all, revealed that in connection with the fact that the South Korean fascist rulers are harshly suppressing the just struggle of workers, youths, and students, a letter to the political parties and organizations of the whole world was adopted in a joint meeting of the political parties and public organizations of the DPRK.

He went on to say: Now in South Korea, democracy is being more harshly repressed than ever before, human rights have been infringed upon, and progressive figures calling for reunification are being arrested daily.

The current South Korean rulers have arrested more than four times as many than were arrested under the Chon Tu-hwan military fascist rule.

During last year alone, the wretches arrested tens of thousands of people under the pretext of political charges. Recently, the South Korean rulers harshly suppressed workers of Hyundai Heavy Industries and employees of the Korean Broadcasting System. This shows that the No Tae-u dictatorial regime revealed itself to be an antipeople and antidemocratic fascist regime. And, this also shows that democracy and human rights, about which the traitor No Tae-u babbles, are nothing but a deception.

The puppets' suppressive maneuvers are, according to the U.S. imperialists' scenario and manipulation, designed to rescue the crumbling colonial fascist rule.

The U.S. imperialists have instigated the No Tae-u ring to infringe upon human rights and to suppress the press. And, they are running wild to cope with their crumbling colonial rule against South Korea.

Son Song-pil, our country's ambassador to the Soviet Union, noted that the letter, which was adopted by the joint meeting of the political parties and public organizations of the DPRK, appealed to the political parties and organizations of the whole world to bitterly denounce the South Korean rulers' repression; to take appropriate measures to check their repression; and to send a solidarity message to the struggle of the South Korean workers, youths, and students calling for democracy, human rights, and the right to existence.

At the same time, he hopes the Soviet press and publications will arouse public opinion denouncing the South Korean fascist military suppression.

Referring to the DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman's statement denouncing the Japanese authorities' reckless provocative maneuvers against our Republic and Chongnyon, he revealed and denounced the Japanese reactionaries's recent suppression of Chongnyon and Korean residents in Japan as not only an insult to our country and Chongnyon, but as a criminal smear plotted in advance with the South Korean puppets.

He said that the Japanese authorities' maneuvers go against the will of the Japanese people and progressive figures who want to maintain friendly relations with our country, and that the Korean people can never overlook this. He stressed that the Japanese authorities must stop suppressing Chongnyon and immediately release the arrested Korean people in Japan.

In conclusion, he expected the Soviet press and publications to denounce the Japanese authorities' suppression and to send a solidarity message to the just struggle of the Korean people in Japan.

After his speech, ambassador answered questions.

Soviet Army-Navy Political Group Arrives

SK1405115290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1045 GMT 14 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 14 (KCNA)—A delegation of the General Political Department of the Army and Naval fleet of the USSR led by Lt-Gen. [Lieutenant General] Vladimir Grebenyuk, deputy director of the department, arrived here today.

It was met at the airport by Col. Gen. [Colonel General] Yi Pong-won and other generals and officers of the Korean People's Army and Pavel Doroshenko, military attache of the Soviet Embassy here.

A reception was given for the delegation in the evening.

Delegation in China Meets With Jiang Zemin

SK1205051090 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Comrade Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, yesterday met with the delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] led by Comrade Kang Song-san, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and responsible secretary of the North Hamgyong Provincial Party Committee, now on visit to China, at Zhongnanhai in Beijing.

At a meeting, head of the delegation conveyed warm greetings from the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il to respected Comrade Jiang Zemin, Comrade Deng Xiaoping, Comrade Yang Shangkun, Comrade Li Peng, Comrade Li Xiannian, and Comrade Deng Yingchao.

Expressing his deep gratitude for this, Comrade Jiang Zemin asked the head of the delegation to convey warm greetings from Comrade Deng Xiaoping, Comrade Yang Shangkun, Comrade Li Peng, Comrade Li Xiannian, Comrade Deng Yingchao, and his own greetings, to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il.

At the meeting, looking back upon the warm and sincere hospitality he received when he visited our country last March, Comrade Jiang Zemin expressed gratitude once again to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Referring to the friendly relations between China and Korea, he said that our two countries are both geographically close and have relations like that of lips and teeth. And, he noted that, through anti-Japanese armed struggle and the war to resist America and to aid Korea, the people of the two countries bound themselves with invincible militant friendship and further consolidated it.

He said that he congratulated the Korean people on all success effected in socialist construction under the leadership of President Kim Il-song.

Talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Attending there were Zhu Liang, head of the International Liaison Department of the CPC Central Committee, and Chu Chang-chun, our country's ambassador to China.

Egyptian President Mubarak Visits Pyongyang

Delegation Arrives 13 May

*SK1305080790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0801 GMT
13 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 13 (KCNA)—Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, arrived here today by special plane for an official visit to our country at the invitation of President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

President Kim Il-song came out to the Pyongyang airport to cordially greet President Muhammad Husni Mubarak.

A welcome function took place at the airport.

President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, accompanied by President Kim Il-song, reviewed a guard of honor of the three services of the Korean People's Army.

The guests were enthusiastically welcomed at the airport by thousands of citizens.

Daily Hails Visit

*SK1305082190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0811 GMT
13 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 13 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry editorials hailing a Korean visit by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of the Arab republic of Egypt upon the invitation of President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Noting that the current visit to Korea of His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak will be an important landmark in further strengthening and developing the relations of fraternal friendship and cooperation between the two governments and peoples of Korea and Egypt, NODONG SINMUN says:

Today the Egyptian people under the leadership of His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak are making creative efforts to achieve national unity and build a prosperous, new Egypt.

The Arab Republic of Egypt pursues the foreign policy of non-alignment and peace and is making strenuous efforts to boost relations with other Arab countries and solve the middle east issue in a peaceful way.

The recent proposal of the Egyptian president to clear the middle east of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and other mass destruction weapons enjoys support and sympathy from among the Arab people.

Egypt, as the chairman state of the Organisation of African Unity, is making positive efforts to strengthen the unity and cohesion of the African countries.

The Korean people sincerely rejoice as over their own over the achievements gained by the Egyptian people in the building of a thriving, new Egypt and wish them greater success in their future endeavours.

The Egyptian people highly estimate the big successes achieved by the Korean people in the revolution and construction under the wise guidance of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the glorious Workers' Party of Korea.

The government and people of Egypt fully support the struggle of the Korean people for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

This visit to Korea by His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak is another expression of support and solidarity for the Korean people who are making consistent efforts for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

To constantly strengthen and develop the traditional friendship between Korea and Egypt is in accord with the desire and aspirations of the two peoples and is conducive to the promotion of the people's cause of chajusong.

The Korean people will in the future, too, make all efforts to further expand and develop the friendly and cooperative relations with the fraternal Egyptian people.

MINJU CHOSON says the Korean people believe that their friendly and cooperative relations with the Egyptian people will further expand and develop on the principles of the non-aligned movement and in their mutual interests.

Kim Il-song Greet Mubarak

SK1305085390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0824 GMT 13 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 13 (KCNA)—Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt [ARE], arrived here today by special plane for an official visit to our country at the invitation of President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

President Kim Il-song came out to the Pyongyang airport to cordially greet President Muhammad Husni Mubarak.

Pyongyang streets and airport were festively decorated to meet the goodwill envoy of the Egyptian people.

Put up at the airport were a portrait of President Kim Il-song and a portrait of President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and sloganboards reading "Long live the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song!" and "Long live respected his Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak!"

Set up were sloganboards reading "Warm welcome to His Excellency Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt!" and "Long live friendship and solidarity between Korean and Egyptian peoples!"

National flags of the DPRK and Egypt were flying on flagpoles.

President Kim Il-song arrived at the airport to meet President Muhammad Husni Mubarak.

Vice-President Yi Chong-ok, Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, Chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army Choe Kwang, Vice-Premiers Hong Song-nam and Kang Hui-won and other senior cadres were present at the airport.

Bahjat Ibrahim Disuqi, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the DPRK, and his embassy officials were on hand.

At 1:30 P.M. the plane carrying the goodwill envoy of the Egyptian people touched down at the airport.

President Kim Il-song exchanged greetings with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and warmly hugged him.

Ahmad 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt;

Kamal Ahmad al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning; Zakariya Husayn 'Azmi, director of the general office of the presidency; Usamah al-Baz, director of the president's office for political affairs and first deputy foreign minister; and other suite members arrived together with the president of the ARE.

A welcome function took place at the airport.

The national anthems of the Arab Republic of Egypt and the DPRK were played.

President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, in company with President Kim Il-song, reviewed a guard of honor of the three services of the Korean People's Army while a 21-gun salute was booming.

President Kim Il-song and President Muhammad Husni Mubarak were presented with bunches of flowers by children, working women and children of members of the Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt in Pyongyang.

President Muhammad Husni Mubarak together with President Kim Il-song waved to thousands of Pyongyangites raising enthusiastic cheers waving miniature flags and bunches of flowers, before heading for the city.

Hundreds of thousands of citizens warmly welcomed the goodwill envoy of the Egyptian people along the route.

Talks Held With Kim Il-song

SK1305112190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1115 GMT 13 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 13 (KCNA)—Talks were held here today between President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Present at the talks on our side were Vice-President Yi Chong-ok, Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, Choe Kwang, chief of the General Staff of the Korea People's Army, and other senior cadres.

Present on the opposite side were Ahmad 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt; Kamal Ahmad al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning; Zakariya Husayn 'Azmi, director of the general office of the presidency; Usamah al-Baz, director of the president's office for political affairs and first deputy foreign minister; and other suite members.

The talks proceeded in a sincere and friendly atmosphere.

Hero of DPRK Award Bestowed

SK1305125190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1233 GMT 13 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 13 (KCNA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of the Arab Republic of

Egypt was awarded the title of the hero of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The awarding ceremony took place on May 13.

Present there was President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Vice-President Yi Chong-ok, Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army Choe Kwang and other officials concerned were present.

Also on hand were the entourage of the president of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

President Kim Il-song awarded the title of the DPRK hero and the gold-star medal and the national flag order first class to President Muhammad Husni Mubarak.

President Muhammad Husni Mubarak expressed deep thanks to President Kim Il-song for awarding the title of hero.

The two state leaders had a photograph taken after the ceremony.

Banquet Arranged for Mubarak

SK1305131690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1307 GMT 13 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 13 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea arranged a grand banquet at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall this evening in honour of President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of the Arab Republic of Egypt on an official visit to Korea.

When President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, accompanied by President Kim Il-song, appeared in the banquet hall, the entire participants warmly welcomed them with thunderous applause.

The national anthems of the ARE and DPRK were played. President Kim Il-song made a speech at the banquet.

President Muhammad Husni Mubarak spoke next.

Invited there were the entourage of the Egyptian president and officials of the Egyptian Embassy here.

Present there were Vice-President Yi Chong-ok, Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, Chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army Choe Kwang, Vice-Premier Hong Song-nam, Vice-Premier Kang Hui-won and other senior officials.

The banquet proceeded all along in a warm atmosphere overflowing with friendly sentiments.

Kim Il-song Speaks at Banquet

SK1405080890 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2100 GMT 13 May 90

[Text] Your Excellency esteemed President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, various Egyptian guests, and comrades, and friends:

Today, our people are greatly pleased to meet Your Excellency the esteemed Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, again after an interval of many years.

On this meaningful occasion where intimate friends are promoting warm friendship between intimate friends, on behalf of the DPRK Government and the Korean people and on my own behalf, I warmly welcome the visit to our country of Your Excellency Mr. President and your entourage.

We are on unusually friendly terms with Your Excellency Mr. President. We are deeply moved by your loyalty to our fraternal obligations and by the noble desire with which you have come again on a long journey to our country in order to continue to strengthen and develop the friendship between the peoples of our two countries.

The Korean and Egyptian peoples have long maintained strong ties of friendship and supported and cooperated with each other in their struggle against the aggressors and for the building of new societies.

The Korean people are proud of having stood by the Egyptian people, giving strong support and encouragement to your just struggle, whenever the imperialists and Israeli Zionists provoked an aggressive war in the Middle East.

The Egyptian Government and people have been extending support and solidarity to our people's struggle to build socialism and reunify the country. In particular, Your Excellency Mr. President has taken many opportunities to work in support of our people's struggle to ease the tension on the Korean peninsula and to realize the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

We always remember this and are pleased to have a true friend in the Middle East in yourself.

Your Excellency Mr. President, your present visit to our country will serve as an important occasion to deepen our friendship and to develop the friendly and cooperative relations between the peoples of Korea and Egypt onto a new, higher stage.

The Egyptian people are an industrious and resourceful people celebrated for their long history and resplendent culture.

The Egyptian people, under the correct leadership of Your Excellency esteemed President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, have now registered many successes in their efforts to achieve the stability of the country and build

an independent and prosperous new society. We regard as our own the successes that they have been making in building a new life. We sincerely wish you greater advances in your future work for the prosperity of your country.

Your Excellency Esteemed Mr. President, you have been working hard for solidarity among the Arab nations and for peace in the Middle East. As the chairman of the Organization of African Unity you have been making great efforts to settle pressing matters of the African people.

We speak highly of this and fully support your recent proposal to proclaim the Middle East to be an area free from all weapons for mass destruction.

Today, an important matter in international relations is to strengthen cooperation among the developing countries.

The peoples of quite a few countries which have achieved political independence and embarked on the road of independent development have not established economic independence because of the evil consequences of imperialist colonial rule and the inequitable international economic system and are experiencing difficulties in their efforts to build new societies. The worldwide imbalance between rich and poor countries is increasing with the passage of time. If the developing countries with enormous potential solidly unite and closely cooperate with one another on the principles of collective self-reliance, equality, and mutual benefit, they will be able to overcome their present difficulties, achieve economic independence, and contribute to the common prosperity of mankind.

Advancing towards detente and peace is the present trend of developments, and the common aspiration of mankind is to build a new, independent world.

We have made reasonable proposals to ease the tension in our country and to achieve the independent, peaceful reunification of the country as soon as possible in keeping with the trend of the present times, and are making sincere efforts to carry them into practice. In order to build a new, free and peaceful world without all manner of domination, subjugation, aggression, and war, the Korean people will unite and cooperate more closely with the Egyptian people and all other peace-loving people throughout the world.

It is already seven years since your last visit to our country as president of the Arab Republic of Egypt. During that period many changes have taken place in the international situation, but the friendship formed between us on the road of struggle for independence, sovereignty, and a new society has been held as dear in our minds as ever.

In today's complex international situation, it is important for the leaders of our two independent and friendly

countries to meet and exchange opinions in this manner and promote understanding.

On this occasion, we shall widely discuss the matter of further expanding and developing the friendly and cooperative relations between our two peoples and many other matters of common concern. We firmly believe that this will undoubtedly produce good results.

Again welcoming you, an old friend of mine, I propose a toast for friendship and unity between the Korean and Egyptian people, for unity among the world's people who defend independence, for the long life and good health of Your Excellency esteemed President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and the good health of your wife, for the good health of various Egyptian guests, and for the good health of various comrades and guests here.

Mubarak Delivers Banquet Speech

*SK1405140090 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
2100 GMT 13 May 90*

[Text] Your Excellency President Kim Il-song—a dear brother—and everyone:

I would like to express my wholehearted thanks to His Excellency President Kim Il-song for warmly greeting us and making a speech overflowing with the feelings of friendship for me and our country.

Our country is proud of having established excellent friendly relations with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and its wise leadership and of making efforts to further strengthen the relations with the militant Korean people who are always standing on our side in the struggle for peace, development, and progress.

I feel very happy each time I meet Your Excellency President Kim Il-song, my dear friend, and exchange views with you on international and regional issues of common concern and perceive Your Excellency's wisdom, keen insight, and firm will to further strengthen cooperation among the peoples of the Third World countries and to overcome various difficulties cropping up in the course of developing science and technology.

We are following with keen interest current developments in the international arena.

We welcome the relaxation of tensions among different forces of the world, the removal of the danger of the outbreak of a destructive nuclear war, the realization of disarmament and arms reduction.

We consider that these developments may be utilized in the global efforts to save mankind from great danger and in bringing about a new turn in successfully and vigorously carrying out a scientific revolution after entering the 21st century. The Third World countries which are facing considerable difficulties and a big challenge and bearing heavy burdens in maintaining their energy sources and production capacity should make more strenuous efforts to renovate the means of production

along modern lines and thus improve the quality of goods and the people's living standards. We think, therefore, that all the forces of the world which are interested in international changes, including the Third World countries, should take part together in bringing about a big historical turn.

If the developing countries which account for the biggest portion of the world population depend on the achievements they have gained so far and expect to gain in future, they will be able not only to build their desired new world but also further expand and strengthen it.

The developing countries are great forces that cannot be ignored in easing the international situation from the geographical and strategic points of view because they are situated in different parts of the world.

Hence, we are ready to cooperate and make conspicuous efforts with fraternal developing countries in the spirit of unity and cooperation, not of confrontation and rivalry.

This is also required for constant dialogue with other forces. Because the destiny of us all is one and our genuine interests lie in uniting our ranks and overcoming together the danger facing us all.

We are following with keen interest the situation on the Asian continent.

We hope that the peoples on the Asian continent will be able to settle disputes between themselves by themselves free from any outside interference and influence.

We know that you are also following with deep interest the developments in the Middle East and on the African continent in the belief that the situation in the Middle East and in the fraternal countries on the Asian continent are inseparably linked.

We support and encourage your heroic struggle for progress and development and your proposals to reunify Korea peacefully on democratic principles.

Friends: Finally, I propose for a toast for the long life and good health of His Excellency Comrade Kim Il-song, a dear friend, the long life and good health of His Excellency dear leader Kim Chong-il, for all the friendly Korean people, and for fraternal friendship between the two countries and the two peoples.

Gift Presented to Kim Il-song

*SK1305142690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1336 GMT
13 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 13 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today received a gift from President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Present on the occasion was the party of the president.

Also on hand were Vice-President Yi Chong-ok, Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, Choe

Kwang, chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army, Vice-Premier Hong Song-nam, Vice-Premier Kang Hui-won and other senior officials.

He presented a gift to President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today.

Mubarak's Proposal Supported

*SK1305143690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1338 GMT
13 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 13 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song fully supported the new proposal for proclaiming the Middle East to be an area free from all mass destruction weapons, which was made by the Egyptian President.

Speaking at the banquet arranged today in honour of President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, President Kim Il-song said:

Your Excellency Esteemed President, you have been working hard for solidarity among the Arab nations and for peace in the Middle East. As the chairman of the organization of African Unity you have been making great efforts to settle pressing matters of the African people.

We speak highly of this and fully support your recent new proposal to proclaim the Middle East to be an area free from all mass destruction weapons.

He said:

The Korean and Egyptian peoples have long maintained strong ties of friendship and supported and cooperated with each other in their struggle against the aggressors and for the building of new societies.

The Korean people are proud of having stood by the Egyptian people, giving strong support and encouragement to your just struggle whenever the imperialists and Israeli Zionists provoked an aggressive war in the Middle East.

On this occasion, we shall widely discuss the matter of further expanding and developing the friendly and cooperative relations between our two peoples and many other matters of common concern. We firmly believe that this will undoubtedly produce good results, President Kim Il-song stressed.

Nations Urged To Cooperate

*SK1305144690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1342 GMT
13 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 13 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song, speaking at the banquet arranged today in honour of President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, said:

Today, an important matter in international relations is to strengthen cooperation among the developing countries.

The peoples of quite a few countries which have achieved political independence and embarked on the road of independent development have not established economic independence because of the evil consequences of imperialist colonial rule and the inequitable international economic system and are experiencing difficulties in their efforts to build new societies. The worldwide imbalance between rich and poor countries is increasing with the passage of time. If the developing countries with enormous potentials solidly unite and closely cooperate with one another on the principles of collective self-reliance, equality and mutual benefit, they will be able to overcome their present difficulties, achieve economic independence and contribute to the common prosperity of mankind. In order to build a new, free and peaceful world without all manner of domination, subjugation, aggression and war, the Korean people will unite and cooperate more closely with the Egyptian and all other peace-loving people throughout the world.

Mubarak Stresses Third World Unity

*SK1305145890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1346 GMT
13 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 13 (KCNA)—Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, in his speech made at a banquet given by President Kim Il-song today in Pyongyang stressed the need to strengthen unity and cooperation among Third World countries.

He said:

We think that all the forces of the world which are interested in international changes, including the Third World countries, should take part together in bringing about a big historical turn.

If the developing countries which account for the biggest portion of the world population depend on the achievements they have gained so far and expected to be gained in future, they will be able not only to build a new world desired by us but also further expand and strengthen it.

The developing countries are great forces that cannot be ignored in easing the international situation from the geographical and strategic points of view because they are situated in different parts of the world.

Hence, we are ready to cooperate and make joint efforts with fraternal developing countries in the spirit of unity and cooperation, not of confrontation and rivalry.

This is also required for constant dialogue with other forces, because the destiny of all of us is one and our genuine interests lie in uniting our ranks into one, overcoming together the danger facing us all. The Third World countries which are facing considerable difficulties and a big challenge and bearing heavy burdens in maintaining their energy and capacity should make more strenuous efforts to renovate the means of production

better on modern lines and thus improve the quality of goods and the people's living standards, the Egyptian president stressed.

Gift Presented for Kim Chong-il

*SK1405054390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0528 GMT
14 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 14 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a gift from Muhammad Husni Mubarak, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, on an official visit to Korea.

The gift was handed to an official concerned on May 13.

'Tete-a-Tete Talks'

*SK1405103490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0958 GMT
14 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 14 (KCNA)—Tete-a-tete talks between President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of the Arab Republic of Egypt were held today.

The talks proceeded in a sincere and friendly atmosphere.

Visit Mangyongdae, May Day Stadium

*SK1405103590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0959 GMT
12 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 14 (KCNA)—Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, today visited historic Mangyongdae together with his entourage.

President Muhammad Husni Mubarak planted a memorial tree.

The president and his entourage inspected the May Day stadium with 150,000 seats.

They were accompanied by Vice-President Yi Chong-ok.

Some members of the entourage called at the grand people's study house.

Earlier, Sunday, they visited the Mangyongdae School Children's Palace.

Delegation Departs 14 May

*SK1405110690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1023 GMT
14 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 14 (KCNA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of the Arab Republic of Egypt left here today by special plane after paying an official visit to Korea upon the invitation of President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

President Kim Il-song saw off President Muhammad Husni Mubarak at Pyongyang airport.

Set up at the airport were a portrait of President Kim Il-song and a portrait of President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and sloganboards reading "Long live the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song!" and "Long live respected His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak!"

Also seen there were sloganboards reading "Bon voyage to His Excellency Muhammad Husni Mubarak, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt!" and "Long live friendship and solidarity between Korean and Egyptian peoples!"

National flags of the two countries were flying at the flagpoles.

When President Kim Il-song and President Muhammad Husni Mubarak arrived at the airport, thousands of working people shouted "Hurrah!" "Bon voyage to Mubarak" and "Friendship, solidarity."

The entourage and the suite members of President Muhammad Husni Mubarak also came out to the airport to leave.

Vice-President Yi Chong-ok, Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army Choe Kwang, Vice-Premier Hong Song-nam, Vice-Premier Kang Hui-won and other senior officials were present at the airport.

Egyptian Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Korea Bahjat Ibrahim Disuqi and his Embassy officials were also seen at the airport.

A farewell function took place at the airport.

The national anthems of the DPRK and ARE [Arab Republic of Egypt] were played.

The two presidents reviewed a guard of honour of the three services of the Korean People's Army.

They were presented with bunches of flowers by Korean working women and children.

President Kim Il-song exchanged greetings with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak at parting and warmly hugged him.

The Egyptian president expressed profound thanks to President Kim Il-song for the hospitality accorded him during his stay in Korea and got on the plane, waving to the crowd.

Kim Il-song Receives Thanks Message From 'Arafat
SK1105152590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1513 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, received a message of

thanks from Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization and commander-in-chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Palestine, leaving the DPRK on May 11.

The message extended sincere thanks to President Kim Il-song for expressing once again strong support and encouragement to the just struggle and patriotic popular uprising of the Palestinian people to put an end to Israel's occupation and establish an independent state with holy Jerusalem as capital.

It expressed once again firm support to all the excellent peace initiatives put forward by President Kim Il-song to realize the complete opening between the North and the South, force the foreign troops to withdraw and ease the tension, and to the Korean people's struggle for the peaceful reunification of the country under his wise leadership.

Kim Il-song Sends Yasir 'Arafat Support Cable

SK1405114690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1039 GMT 14 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 14 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today sent a message of solidarity to Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, on the occasion of the "week of support to the struggle of the Palestinian people".

The message says the Palestinian people under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, the only legitimate representative of their own, have staged a protracted, hard-fought struggle to put a period to the Israeli invaders' occupation of the land of Palestine and found an independent state of Palestine with Jerusalem as the capital.

The cause of justice of the Palestinian people to liberate their homeland and restore their legitimate national rights including the right to return to their country and right to self-determination enjoys full support of the Korean people and the world progressive people, it notes, and stresses:

the Korean people will in the future, too, as in the past stand firmly on the side of the fighting Palestinian people.

Telephone Message Sent on North-South Talks

SK1405045190 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0311 GMT 14 May 90

[Text] The head of the delegation of our side to the preliminary talks for the high-level North-South political and military talks has sent the following telephone message to the senior delegate of the enemy side [chok-chuk].

[Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean at 1200 GMT on 14 May repeats this item but has the following in place of the previous paragraph: "The head of the delegation of our side to the preliminary talks for the high-level North-South political and military talks has sent the following telephone message today through the Red Cross direct telephone to the senior delegate of the South side." (supplying additional phrase and changing the words "enemy side")]

To Song Han-ho, senior delegate of the delegation of the South side to the preliminary talks for the high-level North-South political and military talks:

Your telephone message dated 27 April compels us to be deeply concerned over the prospects of our talks henceforth. I am very surprised that in your telephone message you claimed that we were responsible for the failure to hold, as scheduled, the seventh round of the preliminary talks, which both sides had agreed to hold on 7 March, which is untrue and which is an instance of evil-doer's audacity.

As we have already indicated and as the world's conscientious people consistently admit, our talks which had been in smooth progress were suspended totally because your side, with the United States, pushed ahead with conducting the extremely provocative "Team Spirit-90" joint military exercise against us prepossessed with the anachronistic illusion of confrontation and victory over communism.

As we recall, cherishing dialogue and yearning for peace and reunification, we demanded, in the sixth round of preliminary talks, that your side take steps to suspend the "Team Spirit-90" joint military exercise. Hoping to receive a positive response from your side, we agreed to hold the seventh round of preliminary talks on 7 March.

If your side had been even slightly interested in dialogue and had even the elementary will to achieve reunification, it should have suspended the "Team Spirit-90" joint military exercise and come forth to the seventh round of the preliminary talks. However, your side did not send any notice in as long as one week from the sixth round of the preliminary talks, and conducted the joint military exercise in a full-fledged manner despite the suspension of talks that would result.

It will be needless to explain that conducting a provocative large-scale war rehearsal rows against the other party to dialogue, the fellow countrymen, jointly with foreign forces itself is an act of negating dialogue. Not admitting this stern fact and instead of reflecting on it, your side mentioned someone's responsibility. This is an act of a thief turning on the owner. If you stay in such a position, success is not to be expected even if talks are resumed.

What is urgently needed for us today is not the resumption of dialogue. What is more important and urgent is to have a sincere attitude for dialogue to actually solve the problem through dialogue. The entire nation now wishes

to make great advances by all means in ensuring peace in the country and promoting peaceful reunification this year, the first year of the nineties, through fruitful dialogue which helps bring forth reconciliation and unity and which contributes to expediting reunification.

Your side should not engage in acts of hurting the atmosphere for dialogue and inspiring confrontation running counter to the expectation and desire of the entire nation, but maintain a sincere attitude of resolving the state of political and military confrontation between the North and the South and promoting national reconciliation and unity. If your side shows this sincere attitude, there will not be any difficulty in resuming talks between us.

As for the date of the seventh round of preliminary talks, we will inform your side later as soon as possible of the date which our side thinks appropriate.

[Signed] Paek Nam-chun, head of the delegation of the North side to the preliminary talks for the high-level North-South political and military talks

[Dated] 14 May 1990

Students in South Stage Anti-DLP Protests

SK1105153590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1510 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—Over 15,000 students of 43 universities across South Korea reportedly held rallies and demonstrations Thursday in protest against the "Inaugural Convention" of the treacherous "Democratic Liberal Party" of the No Tae-u-Kim Yong-sam-Kim Chong-pil group.

They held anti-"DLP" rallies on campuses bitterly denouncing the coalition of the pro-American conservative forces and took to the streets and staged demonstrations.

Meanwhile, the National Alliance for Smashing One-Party Dictatorship of The "DLP" and Winning Basic Rights of People vowed to hold an anti-"DLP" meeting from 6 in the evening in Seoul everyday till the 10th anniversary of the Kwangju Uprising and Chondachyop decided to lift the struggle to a higher tide till the anniversary through campus rallies and street demonstrations.

The fascist clique in vexation drove out tens of thousands of police to suppress rallies and demonstrations.

The fascist police beat a reporter of "Radio Christian" who was covering a students' demonstration, heavily wounding him, and inflicted wounds on a reporter of HANGYORE SINMUN by a group assault.

No Tae-u's 'Fascist Clique' 'Forsaken by People'

SK1205044090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0423 GMT
12 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 12 (KCNA)—The No Tae-u fascist clique called a joint press conference on May 10 with the attendance of the puppet ministers of home affairs, justice, education and labour, the puppet prosecutor general and the chief of the Police Headquarters and threatened that "all violations of the law" would be immediately put down by "government" power, according to a report.

It is very ill-boding that the No group is resorting to such threat and blackmail with the tenth anniversary of the Kwangju uprising at hand.

This shows that the No group is coming out with another reactionary offensive as soon as the anti-national "inaugural convention of the Democratic Liberal Party" was held and trying to find a way out of the present crisis in the second Kwangju bloodbath.

No one will be frightened by the fascist clique's threat and blackmail. It is not the prowess of the strong but the wriggle of the weak on the verge of destruction, forsaken by the people.

Daily Denounces 'Brutal Crackdown' in South

SK1205052290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0454 GMT
12 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 12 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today hits out at the No Tae-u military fascist clique's renewed scheme for brutal crackdown in South Korea.

The news analyst says:

The No Tae-u fascist clique called "a joint press conference of ministers concerned with public peace" on May 10, at which they threatened to "ruthlessly deal with by invoking 'government' power immediately" any acts of opposing the "government" or violating "law and order," "leftist forces," "law-breaking labour-management disputes," "activities for political awakening" and so on, viewing them as "attempts to overthrow the liberal democratic system."

The No group let loose a whole string of repressive declarations and has since launched a wholesale fascist offensive against the South Korean people who aspire after independence, democracy and reunification, the national forces which call for democracy and reunification. This is an outspoken "declaration of war" against the nation, democracy and national reunification aimed at maintaining its colonial fascist rule which is shaking to the very bottom and at building the one-party dictatorship of the "Democratic Liberal Party" (DLP).

The fascist clique's repressive orders now put South Korea in a de facto state of "extraordinary martial law."

All puppet administrative organs and repressive machines have been put under an "emergency system" permitting no off-day, all repressive forces are alerted on the "round-the-clock emergency duty" and all democratic rights including the freedom of speech, the press, assembly, association and demonstration are stifled at the point of the bayonet.

The No group has arrested leading members of dissident organizations and is putting down the protests of people of broad strata including the workers of the Hyundai Heavy industries and the employees of the "Korea Broadcasting System" (KBS) at the point of the bayonet in an effort to destroy the struggle for democracy as a whole including the labour movement and defuse the crisis of its rule.

However, it is nothing but the last-ditch efforts of the dictator facing his own destruction.

The No Tae-u fascist clique must know that their suppression today will only invite stronger resistance tomorrow, and give up the reckless fascist offensive, dissolve the "DLP" and step down without delay as demanded by the people.

Daily Urges South Unionists' Continued Struggle

SK1205105790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1047 GMT
12 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 12 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN Saturday, analyzing the month-long struggle of the unionists of the "Korea Broadcasting System" (KBS) for the democratisation of the press in South Korea urges them to carry on their struggle till their demands have been met.

The developments surrounding the "KBS" are not a mere internal affair of the company, but a serious political problem directly connected to the autonomy of broadcasting and democratisation of the press and, furthermore, to the democratisation of the society, the news analyst says, and continues:

The struggle of the "KBS" unionists shows their repentance of the errors in the past when they were forced by the fascist clique to serve as a waiting maid of the dictatorial power and a paid medium and their practical will not to repeat the disgrace of that kind. And it manifests their high degree of consciousness in their resolution to fulfil their tasks and mission as an unbiased mouthpiece of the public opinion and live up to the expectation of the people to the press.

Drawing attention to the fact that the No Tae-u group is bloodily suppressing the just struggle of the unionists by "government" power, the paper says: This proves that there is no change in its fascist nature and the "regime of the democratic liberal party", an offspring of the merger of three parties, is a den of the pro-American fascists who seek to totally stifle the demands of the people for democracy with the bayonet rule harsher than the "Fifth

Republic" dictatorship and maintain and extend the dictatorial "regime" facing a crisis.

With the No group left alone in South Korea, it is impossible any time to realise the democratisation of the society and autonomy of the press.

The "KBS" unionists should continue their struggle till their demands have been met, not yielding to any outrage and pressure of the fascist clique, and all the reporters and other men of the press and public circles of South Korea should wage more powerfully the solidarity struggle and massive joint struggle by way of sharing the destiny with them.

The No group must give up the criminal scheme to fascistise the press and dismiss the "government"-installed president and release all the arrested men of the press as demanded by the "KBS" unionists.

Students Hold 'Sit-Down' Against 'Fascism'

SK1405053390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0523 GMT 14 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 14 (KCNA)—South Korean students reportedly broke into the puppet national Tax Office in Chongro district, Seoul, and held a sit-down against fascism.

They made their way up to the top of the building, clashing with police, and loudly shouted "Dissolve the Democratic Liberal Party" and "Away with the dictatorial 'government' aligned with business groups."

'Lawful' Strikers 'Suppressed' by No Tae-u

SK1405053790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0525 GMT 14 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 14 (KCNA)—The No Tae-u fascist clique on the early morning of May 11 hurled 450 police troops of three companies to the site of a sit-in strike of the workers of the Yusong Company, a motor parts producer in Puchon, Kyonggi Province, and whisked off 150 strikers, according to a report.

The workers had launched the lawful strike, boycotting work after the negotiation for wage hike was brought to a rupture by the unjust act of the company side.

Nonetheless, the No Tae-u clique in collusion with the company side suppressed the workers at the point of the bayonet.

The fascist rampage following the wholesale police crackdown on the unionists of the Hyondae heavy industries and the "Korea Broadcasting System" shows once again that the No Tae-u fascist clique is the rare murderer stifling democracy and human rights and the sworn enemy with whom the people cannot live under the same sky.

South Korea

North To Return Remains of U.S. Soldiers

SK1205132990 Seoul Television Service in Korean 1200 GMT 12 May 90

[Report by Na Hyong-su from Washington]

[Text] In order to normalize relations with the United States, North Korean authorities notified the United States that they will hand over five bodies of U.S. soldiers who were missing during the Korean War, as well as prisoners of war who are still alive on 28 May, U.S. Memorial Day.

According to sources from the U.S. State Department, the North Korean authorities notified the United States about this on 26 April at the eighth diplomatic contacts between the United States and North Korea, which were held in Beijing. It also stated that the North Korean authorities demanded that a U.S. congressman receive the bodies at the neutral zone in Panmunjom.

According to another source, the North Korean authorities notified the United States that they will also hand over prisoners of war along with the bodies of U.S. soldiers on 28 May. Therefore, it was revealed that the U.S. and North Korean authorities were in the process of holding meetings on the issue of handing them over. However, the number of the living prisoners of war and their identities have not been disclosed.

In a related issue, the visits of Dr. William Taylor and Dr. (Garret Kong) of the U.S. International Strategic Affairs Institute, who were given permission to visit Pyongyang in February, were suddenly canceled. However, they received permission on 11 May from (Ho Chong), North Korea's deputy permanent observer to the United Nations, to visit North Korea.

[Begin Taylor recording in English] Yes, this morning, very early, I received a fax, a letter, requesting me to go to Pyongyang from 28 May to 2 June. Yes, that happened just this morning. [end recording]

The permission for U.S. scholars to visit North Korea is noteworthy because it is taking place at the same time as the prisoners of war and bodies are to be handed over.

Foreign Ministry Confirms Plan

SK1405102390 Seoul YONHAP in English 1012 GMT 14 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 14 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Foreign Ministry Confirmed Monday [14 May] that North Korea has agreed to hand over to the United States remains of five American soldiers killed in the Korean war (1950-1953) through the border village of Panmunjom on May 28.

A high-ranking Ministry official said Rep. G.V. Montgomery (Democrat from Miss.), chairman of the U.S. House Veterans' Affairs Committee, will officially

announce the agreement reached between the North Korean and U.S. negotiators at 14:00 GMT Monday (11 P.M. KST).

The official said Pyongyang has agreed to return the remains of the American soldiers in meetings with U.S. diplomats in Beijing and separate contacts with Rep. Montgomery and some U.S. veterans. Rep. Montgomery and several other U.S. congressmen will be on hand at Panmunjom to observe the delivery of the remains, according to the official.

He said the remains of the U.S. soldiers were to be delivered through Panmunjom in view of a relevant clause of the Armistice Agreement that stipulates any delivery of remains of war deads be handled through the Military Armistice Commission.

Return of U.S. Remains Analyzed

SK1305102590 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean
13 May 90 p 3

[Article by reporter Kim Sung-yong: "The Background of North Korea's Return of Remains of U.S. Soldiers Killed During the Korean War"]

[Text] North Korea has agreed to return the remains of five U.S. soldiers who were missing during the Korean war. The agreement seems to be an important signal of the possibility of improving relations between the United States and North Korea.

The remains that will be returned this time are only a few of the estimated 8,000 U.S. soldiers whose remains are still there. However, North Korea's decision to meet one of the conditions that the United States has proposed so far as a prerequisite for the improvement of relations with North Korea has a greater significance than a mere "humanitarian" one.

In particular, this agreement on the return of the remains of five U.S. soldiers draws our particular attention because it was made following North Korea's decision to allow North Korean scholars to attend an academic symposium in Washington. The North Korean decision to allow its scholars to attend the symposium was made following the eighth round of diplomatic contacts between the United States and North Korea on 26 April in Beijing.

The United States has claimed thus far that as preconditions for improving its relations with North Korea, along with the return of remains of U.S. soldiers killed during the Korean war, North Korea should: 1) Make progress in its dialogue with South Korea; 2) Take measures for building trust in the Demilitarized Zone; 3) Renounce terrorist activity; and 4) Conclude a nuclear safety agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA].

Thus far, the United States has refused North Korea's demands for upgrading the level of the diplomatic contacts in Beijing from the present consular level to an

ambassadorial level. The reasons for the U.S. refusal are these preconditions. Accordingly, North Korea's decision to return the remains of U.S. soldiers can be interpreted as a first step toward improving relations with the United States, including the upgrading of the level of diplomatic contacts in Beijing.

Observers believe that North Korea is now attempting to improve relations with the United States in a bid to extricate itself from its present diplomatic isolation caused by South Korea's successful diplomatic policy toward communist countries. They also believe that North Korea's latest decision to return the remains of U.S. soldiers is a tangible result of its efforts for the improvement of relations with the United States and an expression of its "sincerity" toward the issue of returning remains of U.S. soldiers, which has been negotiated with U.S. civilian agencies, including the U.S. Congress and the American Legion. Some other observers believe that if North Korea succeeds in improving its relations with the United States in the direction it wants with its current decision to return the remains of U.S. soldiers as an occasion, there is a high probability that the North Korean authorities will accept other preconditions that the United States has suggested to improve relations.

In other words, the observers believe that regarding the issue of concluding the nuclear safety agreement with the IAEA, North Korea has been subjected to strong pressure from the Soviet Union, that the rest of the U.S. preconditions are not difficult for North Korea to accept, and that, therefore, there is a high probability that North Korea will accept them without difficulty.

However, even though it accepts these preconditions by the U.S. side, North Korea will "adjust the tempo" of its diplomatic negotiations with the United States in a bid to achieve the goals of its protracted demands, which include: 1) The upgrading of the channel of dialogue with the United States, and 2) the withdrawal of U.S. forces and nuclear weapons from South Korea and the suspension of the "Team Spirit" military exercise in South Korea. In the course of negotiations with the United States on these demands, North Korea will still assume its old attitude of calling for direct negotiations with the United States, while refusing to recognize South Korea as a party concerned in its negotiations for the solution of the question of the Korean peninsula.

Nevertheless, North Korea cannot but make efforts to improve relations with Western countries in a bid to restore the "diplomatic loss" caused by South Korea's successful northern policy. Such efforts by North Korea will be directed toward improving relations with Japan, let alone the United States.

Unlike the United States, Japan currently has no precondition for improving relations with North Korea. Therefore, the improvement of relations with Japan will be very easy if North Korea initiates the efforts in this matter. The only obstacles to the improvement of relations between Japan and North Korea at present are the

issue of dealing with former North Korean soldier Min Hong-ku, who defected to Japan aboard a Japanese cargo ship several years ago, and the issue of releasing the two crewmen of the Japanese ship "Fujisan-maru," who have been detained in North Korea.

Observers predict that a Japanese Liberal Democratic Party delegation led by former Japanese Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru will visit Pyongyang this fall. They believe that the Japanese party delegation's visit, if realized, will be an epochal occasion for improving relations between Japan and North Korea.

In particular, observers believe that Japan, which has taken a prudent act not to destroy the present balance between North and South Korea, will attempt to improve relations with North Korea in keeping with South Korea's efforts to improve relations with China and the Soviet Union.

Accordingly, if North Korea shows a moderate attitude toward both the United States and Japan, the possibility of the realization of cross-recognition of North and South Korea, which our country has sought thus far, will also be very high.

In a nutshell, the present task is for the countries concerned to cooperate in leading North Korea's efforts for improving relations with the United States in the direction of alleviating the present tension on the Korean peninsula.

Overeagerness To Meet With Solomon Criticized

*SK1305042190 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean
11 May 90 p 2*

[Article by Political Department reporter Yi Chae-ho from the "Reporter's Eye" column: "A Visit by the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State]

[Text] It seems that the position of the U.S. assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs is an influential one. Whenever he visits Seoul, many of our political leaders and high-ranking civil servants vie to find time to meet him. What they talk about when they meet is not only limited to Korea-U.S. relations. They discuss the issue of the ruling and opposition parties, labor disputes, and even the smallest details of domestic politics.

There was no exception to this for Assistant Secretary Richard Solomon, who left Korea on 11 May after spending three nights and four days here. He also met many people. He met Deputy Prime Minister Yi Sung-yun, Minister of Foreign Affairs Choe Ho-chung, Minister of National Defense Yi Sang-hun, and Minister of Trade and Industry Pak Pil-su. He also paid a courtesy call on Kim Tae-chung, president of the Party for Peace and Democracy; Kim Yong-sam, executive chairman of the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP]; and Kim Chong-pil and Pak Tae-chun, co-chairmen of the DLP; and held an exchange on topics of common interest. He of course met

with the people from Chongwadae. Yi Hong-ku, special assistant to the president for political affairs, hosted a breakfast meeting and Kim Chong-hwi, assistant to the president for diplomatic and national security affairs, hosted a dinner.

Solomon makes me think of his predecessor, Gaston Sigur. Assistant Secretary Sigur was also very influential. Whenever he came to Seoul, the whole nation was in a tizzy. This was all the more so, because the time during which he frequently visited Seoul was in the last period of the Fifth Republic. What does the United States think about the democratic struggle which has just been ignited? How much pressure is the United States going to apply on the Fifth Republic regime to implement out democracy? There were times when it seemed that Sigur had the answers to these questions.

Then how about Solomon's visit to Korea this time? Of course it cannot be compared with Sigur's past visits. His visit to Korea, as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs puts it, is a regular "field trip." However, Korea-U.S. relations have changed from the past. It has become such that our assistant secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who is the counterpart of Solomon, was able to comment critically by saying to him, "Many Korean intellectuals now want a readjustment in Korea-U.S. relations. The United States must know this also."

Nevertheless, Solomon's visit to Korea and our side's attitude in greeting him is not all that pleasant. As was noted over and over, he is only the U.S. assistant secretary of state, which is regarded as an official at the bureau chief's level in our Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It is not a pleasant sight to see ruling and opposition leaders trying to find time for him all at the same time, and to see the Chongwadae side competing among themselves to treat him to meals. Meetings with Solomon are in the form of a courtesy call, but when looking at the fact that schedules for meetings and courtesy calls are set for each hour to meet him, this is not a "courtesy call" but a "summons." Looking at this from the U.S. side's point of view, I wonder whether this kind of cordial reception would occur if our official from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs visited the United States.

North Korean Cement Arrives From Nampo

*SK1305034490 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 13 May 90 p 6*

[Text] A total of 5,722 tons of cement, the first shipment of 120,000 tons of cement which Ssangyong Group plans to import from North Korea, arrived in Yosu, a port city in southwestern Chollanam-to, Friday.

The first construction materials imported from the North, the cement was transported directly from Nampo, a port city immediate North of Demilitarized Zone, via a Panamanian cargo ship.

Early this year, Ssangyong made the contract to import the North Korean cement via an European agency.

Hyundai Permitted To Donate Cars to North

SK1205060290 Seoul YONHAP in english 0529 GMT
12 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 12 (YONHAP)—A South Korean conglomerate has won government permission to donate two cars and some heavy equipment to North Korea, a spokesman for the National Unification Board said Saturday [12 May].

The official said the board told the Hyundai Construction and Engineering Co., an affiliate of the Hyundai Business Group, on May 3 that it could give Pyongyang a dump truck, a bulldozer, a front-end loader, an excavator, a forklift and two 2.4 liter grandeur sedans.

Group founder Chong Chu-yong promised North Korea the gift during a visit in January 1989, he said. Hyundai filed an application to make the gift with the Trade and Industry Ministry on March 21, 1989, but the government stayed action at Hyundai's request, he said. A second application was made Jan. 15, he said.

It will be the first donation of its kind by a South Korean company to the hardline communist regime in North Korea.

Choe Ho-chung on Ties With USSR, GDR, PRC

SK1205050890 Seoul YONHAP in English 0448 GMT
12 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 12 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the Soviet Union could establish diplomatic ties by the end of the year, Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung predicted Saturday [12 May] in a wide-ranging address to his policy advisers.

"The two sides reaffirmed their agreement on the establishment of ties in a vice foreign ministers meeting at the United Nations last month. I think the ties will be established by the year's end at the latest," he told a meeting at the Korean Traders Association in downtown Seoul.

Noting a turnaround in Moscow's stand on Korean membership in the United Nations, Choe said, "the Soviet Union has changed its attitude entirely concerning our entry into the United Nations. It has not only given up its negative attitude but also says it would voluntarily assist our entry."

While admitting that contacts with Beijing were showing little progress due to the special relationship between Pyongyang and Beijing, he said the Asian games in Beijing this fall would be an important turning point.

Choe said the government was harvesting outstanding results in its diplomatic relations with non-aligned nations and that ties would be established with Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Angola before long.

On relations with East Germany, the minister said, "The East Germans are more positive than us. They want to establish diplomatic ties with us."

For all Korea's warming relations with the communist bloc, he said, "our ultimate target is North Korea, which has failed to show as much change as we had hoped to see. There remain many barriers for us to cross before we see it open and seek reunification with us."

Asked about the significance of President No Tae-u's visit to Japan on May 24-26, Choe said, "It is of crucial importance since it will serve as an occasion to resolve the unfortunate problems in bilateral history and to discuss the tasks the two countries will face in the Pacific Era."

He said No would make trips to the United States, Canada and Mexico, postponed due to domestic instability, in the near future.

The talk was attended by some 30 Foreign Ministry officials and advisers.

Olympic Delegation Due in Beijing 17-26 May

SK1305002790 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 13 May 90 p 2

[Text] The government will dispatch a delegation of the Korea Olympic Committee (KOC) to Beijing May 17-26 in preparation for the Beijing Asian Games scheduled for this fall, it was learned yesterday.

The delegation is known to be composed of not only KOC officials but also those from the related government ministries including the ministries of foreign affairs, transportation and sports.

A government official said the delegation will discuss with Beijing officials such issues as transportation, lodging and safety problems of the Korean athletic teams and tourists and the dispatch of liaison officials for the Games. They will also negotiate Korea's financial and technical support for the Games which include participation of Korean businesses in advertising.

Another government source said the delegation will also discuss sending a temporary consular mission to Beijing during the Games for protecting the Korean athletes and tourists.

Shipping Talks With Japan End in Failure

SK1305004190 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES
in English 13 May 90 p 9

[Text] Tokyo (AFP)—Japan and South Korea failed during two-day talks on shipping here to agree on Tokyo's request for the removal of curbs imposed by Seoul on cargo services, industry sources said Saturday.

During the Thursday and Friday talks, Tokyo officials asked for the lifting of curbs that virtually shut out all Japanese freighters on short-distance services between

South Korea and other Far East Asian destinations, including Japan, the sources said.

The sources said that the South Korean side only told the Japanese representatives that Seoul would consider the issue. They agreed to hold the next round talks in the fall, but at a venue yet to be decided, the sources said.

Task Force Set To Check Real Estate Speculation

SK1205013290 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 12 May 90 p 1

[Text] Chongwadae has formed a presidential task force to check bureaucratic discipline and irregularities in connection with real estate speculation by business conglomerates and government officials.

The 54-member special team, headed by Chong Ku-yong, senior presidential secretary for civil petition and information is composed of officials from Chongwadae, the Board of Audit and Inspection, the Prime Minister's Office and the National Police Headquarters.

The task force, to function until the end of the year, is to investigate real estate speculation by government officials, politicians and business tycoons, their luxurious lifestyle and discipline of government officials.

A Chongwadae source said yesterday that President No Tae-u ordered the formation of the special team Thursday to help root out what he called rampant real estate speculation and maintain law and order. The task force will perform its duties in close cooperation with the already-founded special presidential real estate team.

Those discovered involved in the irregularities will be subjected to severe legal punishment, the Chongwadae source said.

Meanwhile, Chongwadae yesterday instructed the Construction Ministry to dismiss So Pyong-ki, director of the Seoul Regional Construction and Management Office, in connection with some irregularities with a construction company.

The government Friday dismissed Yi Pyong-son, president of the Hanil Bank, holding him responsible for a real estate-related scandal.

Government sources said the formation of the presidential auditory team stems from No's firm resolution to cope with the prevailing socioeconomic problems.

Politicians Investigated in 'Purification Drive'

SK1205074590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0722 GMT 12 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 12 (YONHAP)—South Korea's politicians are currently under investigation to determine if all of their wealth was legally come by, informed sources said Saturday. The sources said lawmakers on both sides of the aisle are being scrutinized for evidence of illegal real estate deals, extravagance or "scandalous acts."

"There are not a few lawmakers who have accumulated wealth by exploiting classified information offered by government agencies or by exerting influence on administrators, financial institutions and enterprises," a highly placed government source said. He said a list of politicians, high-ranking government officials and military officers with impure records would be released shortly.

The ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) decided Saturday to support the government's purification drive by checking its own lawmakers, their assistants and families, and by activating a disciplinary committee.

DLP lawmakers will discuss purification of the political arena in a seminar at the Saemaul training institute in Songnam City, Kyonggi Province, on May 28-29. The ruling party will seek to pass bills that would make it illegal for lawmakers to influence public servants and businesses in the National Assembly session to be convened on May 29.

Major Commercial Construction Put on Hold

SK1405053690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0525 GMT 14 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 14 (YONHAP)—South Korea has banned the construction of hotels, department stores and luxury buildings until Sept. 30 to stabilize the supply of construction materials for major government projects, the Construction Ministry said Monday. The ministry ordered local governments to stop issuing building permits Tuesday.

The unprecedented action is based on the construction law, which gives the construction minister the authority to order local authorities to stop approving construction work for national defense or economic reasons. Saunas, massage parlors and restaurants are included in the ban.

Permits already issued will be withdrawn if work has not started by the third quarter, unauthorized buildings will be demolished and illegal alterations will have their electricity and water supplies turned off, the ministry said.

Hyundai Workers Vote for Collective Action

SK1205124190 Seoul YONHAP in English 1207 GMT 12 May 90

[Text] Ulsan, South Korea, May 12 (YONHAP)—Workers of Hyundai Motor Co. voted Saturday for collective disputes with the management in their bid to obtain better working conditions and wage increases.

The unionists, however, did not decide immediately when and what type of collective actions they would stage, entrusting their leaders with the matter.

A motion calling for collective disputes was assisted by a total of 19,115 unionists, or 78.8 percent of the total voters, against 4,567 nays (18.8 percent), according to the results of the vote which was held from 6 A.M.

Through 1 P.M. (local time). Voters turnout reached 90.8 percent with 24,241 unionists attending.

The yes-no vote was held in the wake that a lengthy negotiation broke down Friday without narrowing differences on 35 points at issue. The labor union have tabled 128-point demand, including a 42-hour workweek and an annual bonus of 650 percent, at 22 rounds of negotiations since Feb. 22.

The union's holding of the vote itself is expected to cause trouble as the vote has already been branded as an "illegal act" by the Labor Ministry, which accuses the union of failing to satisfy legal requirements in conducting the vote.

The unionists, according to the ministry, did not abide by the trade union act which stipulates that such yes-no vote should be put on public notice 15 days ahead of the opening date of the union members' general conference.

It was only last Wednesday that the union leaders decided to hold the vote if their negotiations failed to produce a compromise by Friday afternoon.

Meanwhile, executive officials of the automaker proposed Saturday afternoon a resumption of talks with the labor union Monday or Tuesday.

Kim Yong-sam Says Discontent With DLP Abating

*OW1105164290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1437 GMT
11 May 90*

[Text] Seoul, May 11 KYODO—Kim Yong-sam, executive chairman of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP), told Japanese editorial writers Friday that the party will maintain relations with the Japan Socialist Party (JSP), Japan's largest opposition party.

Kim was elected to the DLP's No. 2 post at its inaugural convention held Wednesday in Seoul. No Tae-u was elected president of the party, formed three months ago through the merger of three major parties.

In an interview with six editorial writers from Japanese news media, Kim said the DLP intends to maintain relations with the JSP, while also keeping ties with Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party. Kim, former leader of the opposition Reunification Democratic Party, said he does not intend to change his political stance toward the JSP.

Asked about sagging support ratings for the dragging merger, Kim said he was convinced that public discontent has abated since the DLP was formally launched.

Burma

Saw Maung Addresses Regional Councils Meeting

*BK1005110090 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 9 May 90*

[Address by Senior General Saw Maung, chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council and commander in chief of the Defense Services, at coordinating meeting of the state and regional law and order restoration councils held at the Office of the Commander in Chief of the Defense Services on 9 May—recorded]

[Excerpts] I had said at the previous quarterly meeting that another meeting might not be held in the next quarter. However, another quarterly meeting has been called because the general situation has improved. I would like to speak on what should and should not be done in connection with the forthcoming multiparty general elections, which will be an outstanding milestone in the country's history. [passage omitted]

At this juncture, I would like to comment on views on history. One view on history is that current actions cannot be judged in the present time but will be judged by historians in the future. I do not quite accept this view as absolutely correct. I believe the present situation should be judged on the basis and merit of practical work, work implemented, accomplished deeds, and actions. In the long term, what is to be written by historians will become a solid record of documents and evidence on these actions. I say this because what is being said and written today concerning the 1988 events implies that nothing positive was accomplished during the 26 years [under the Burma Socialist Program Party—BSPP] rule. Is it not so? Think seriously.

It will be necessary to note firmly that we are not taking sides with a particular party or organization. Is there nothing that is positive? For instance, was it not good to hold the conference for the unity of all Buddhist sects [held by the BSPP in 1980] for the purification and promulgation of religion. Was it not good to take economic control of the state from the hands of foreigners? Was it not good to transform agriculture—which was based on draft cattle—to mechanized agriculture? Was it not good to take back the exploration of natural resources from the hands of foreigners? Was it not good to open more colleges and schools for education, hospitals, clinics, dams and irrigation systems and step up the production of hydroelectric power? [passage omitted] I cannot accept these purely negative views of the 26-year rule.

The Revolutionary Council was formed following the 1962 coup, and the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma was formed only in 1974. Don't they like the Revolutionary Council and the Revolutionary Government? They should answer this. Was not the 1974 Constitution ratified by a national referendum? [passage omitted] If you think it is not true, ask U Ding Ra Tan, who served as chairman of the National Referendum

Commission. Under this constitution he was a member of the State Council and enjoyed a political pension. He has established a party now and is calling for democracy and saying he does not like the previous system. I have nothing to say about this. Let them do what they want in the democratic era. We will just regard it as an attempt to participate in construction of a new nation.

However, I want to say we have not done anything to undermine U Ding Ra Tan's prestige. He should not demand the SLORC [State Law and Order Restoration Council] to issue an explanation [on allegations he opposed Aung San Suu Kyi's candidacy]. The SLORC information committee was merely citing a BANGKOK POST report on a KIA [Kachin Independence Army] statement. He should ask for explanation from the KIA and the BANGKOK POST. He can sue the information committee if he believes the information committee is saying something not true. What is difficult is that those who were members of the Commission for Drafting the 1974 Constitution are now members of some party organizations and are saying they do not like that constitution and are advocating democracy. I cannot comprehend this. What is more difficult is that senior figures who fixed their signatures on a document to follow the Burmese Way to Socialism during the era of the Revolutionary Council and our former superiors are denouncing this system and are advocating democracy. [passage omitted]

I understand that according to political norms I should not make references to personalities. However, one cannot avoid personalities in dealing with history. When one talks of Burmese history, one cannot help mention persons such as General Aung San, the Thirty Comrades, U Nu, Gen. Ne Win, Gen. San Yu, Brigadier Sein Lwin, and Dr. Maung Maung. There will be history so long as there are human beings. [passage omitted]

Politically speaking, democracy and confrontation can never go hand in hand. This is my belief. There are many things to be said, if I want to say them. Come what may, the elections will be held on 27 May.

Let us continue to discuss matters that could possibly obstruct successful holding of the elections. Priority should be given to discussions on armed insurgency. The BCP [Burma Communist Party] began when it went underground with its slogan based on materialism: Independence cannot be demanded; independence has to be fought for. It is known to all today that there is only a remnant of BCP armed insurgency left after our ethnic brothers fought against them. However, we have to be cautious of a reported plan to enter Shweli Valley region. We should be especially careful not to allow them to establish a foothold. [passage omitted]

It will be necessary not to lose sight of the In region and the areas under their former strategic plan. Do not ever forget about the protracted war mentioned by [BCP chairman] Ba Thein Tin. Although there are no large armed units at present, we should be aware that there are

still BCP sympathizers and UG's [underground agents] inside the country. We should take note that the BCP Central Committee was able to discuss on 10 September 1988 the formation of a parallel government by U Nu on 9 September 1988.

If we study the broadcasts of the BCP when it was still strong, it shows they were able to broadcast almost immediately on the events around Mandalay, Sagaing, and Monywa. It shows they have their cells inside and were able to send information on modern equipment. I shall not dwell on how they operated during the events [of 1988], as it had been explained by Major General Khin Nyunt. Nobody can guarantee that UG's and their cells will not resort to threats and blackmail to vote for the party of their choice. We experienced during the AFPFL [Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League] era how those insurgents in the jungle demanded votes be cast for the NUF [National United Front]. Do not take it for granted that there is security in Yangon [Rangoon] and major towns. We have to take note of the BCP Politburo meeting during which it was said that they are in control in Mandalay Division and that monks have been organized. We can still see their movements and occasional publications.

I shall tell the regional commanders and divisional commanders about BCP UG matter that you do not know. It is a true story, which happened in Yangon. Many today know Thakin Tin Mya, who was once a member of the BCP Central Committee. He was originally a Red Flag communist and later joined the BCP. He was arrested in Yangon while he was undertaking UG duty. [passage omitted] He later joined the Lanzin Party [BSPP] and became a Central Committee member at the first party congress. He was among those purged in the party in 1977. He was awarded Naing Ngan Gonyi title during what is now referred to as the Ma-Sa-La [derogatory name for BSPP] era, and is currently enjoying a political pension.

During the events of 1988 he stayed near Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to give her advice. Thakin Tin Mya is now not interested in party politics. Thakin Tin Mya claimed that the idea of a multiparty system and market economy came about after it was mentioned by U Ne Win in his 23 July [1988] speech. He said Daw Aung San Suu Kyi personally respects Marx but does not believe in communism. [passage omitted] He disclosed that although Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's original stand on the Defense Services was correct, her defiant statements of July [1989] obliterated her original position. There were so many disclosures, and these disclosures will become historical documents. We shall keep them. What was significant was that while the Patriotic [Old Comrades] League accepts the election path, those on the side of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi did not want to accept the election.

What we are doing is not party politics, but it concerns the entire country. We shall state the truth as it is. I have my views. That is, I do not want history to be written

later. Settle what is to be settled now. I like this. I cannot let the country suffer in the future and the Defense Services disintegrate by not saying what is to be said because I do not want to offend any person, group, or organization. Whether they have a grudge against the Defense Services can be seen from the records, news bulletins, and speeches published by the parties. [passage omitted]

On 5 July 1989 I urged that confrontation should be avoided. What did they do despite this? I shall put it briefly, to avoid a lengthy speech. After I said this on 5 July, on 6 July Daw Aung San Suu Kyi spoke in Pazundaung and Botataung and spoke in Sanchaung on 7 July and at the 7 July ceremony of All-Burma Students Union. [passage omitted] On that occasion Daw Aung San Suu Kyi said that in the past students were killed by U Ne Win and that U Ne Win's path was followed by Gen. Saw Maung. She also said SLORC is an instrument of U Ne Win and is carrying out his instructions. [passage omitted]

She spoke at Pabedan on 10 July 1989, and at Kyauktada and Bahan party headquarters on 13 July. She said at a Martyrs Day meeting on 14 July that she did not want government supervision of the Martyrs Day ceremony, that there were too many restrictions, and that she would march according to her own program. We invited all parties for the Martyrs Day ceremony. We expected cooperation, as the Martyrs Day concerned all. We issued invitations with goodwill, but it was misinterpreted.

The Martyrs Day issue is very important. What the BCP planned to do with it has been explained in the book by Maj. Gen. Khin Nyunt. You would need to relate the events. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi even went to the extent of sending a letter to the SLORC demanding it to come and see her. It was signed by Ma Theingi. It amounted to a challenge to the government. We tried very much to be tolerant, regarding it as a surge in political activities. [passage omitted]

There are 93 political parties contesting in the elections. It is clear they are not of the same mind. We will be able to tell after the elections who are the genuine representatives of the people.

In her speeches of that time [July 1989], Daw Aung San Suu Kyi tried to play the Army against the people by advocating defiance of unjust orders and making references to allegiance to U Ne Win, fascist army, and implementation of U Ne Win's orders, despite its recognition of Gen. Aung San as father of the Defense Services. I said on 5 July 1989 that U Ne Win has retired from politics. History will decide whether he keeps his word. Those who are well versed in law and politics know about this. [passage omitted]

Why did she regard us as an enemy and carry out activities that we pleaded with her not to? There is evidence of a plan to defy orders at the Martyrs Day ceremony. [passage omitted] Tapes of her speeches show

her attitude toward the SLORC. [passage omitted] With whose advice did she carry out these activities? If she is politically naive, are not the party chairman [U Tin U]—who once served as the commander in chief of the Defense Services—and those who served as regional commanders responsible for her actions? Did they read the documents published at that time, or do they know about it?

When [secretary of the National League for Democracy—NLD] U Chit Khaing was summoned, he said the detention of Aung San Suu Kyi by the Army was timely and that, had she not been detained, the NLD and the Patriotic Old Comrades League would split. Please understand I am saying all this because of circumstances. I have no intention to hurt anyone. I am just telling the truth. It is necessary not to misinterpret this.

The people will vote for the candidate of their choice at the elections. We cannot deprive them of their right. What we have to do mainly is to ensure that there is peace and no coercion or threats. I am recounting the past events and telling the truth so that, taking into consideration the sly methods of the BCP's, there will be vigilance against BCP meddling in the elections. It will also be necessary to supervise so a strong party will not use threats and coercion. [passage omitted]

Next, I would like to speak on the Democratic Alliance of Burma [DAB], which is composed of groups led by the KNU [Karen National Union] and the KIA [Kachin Independence Army]. [passage omitted] The area of operations of these organizations shows that the DAB is based at the Thai border and is operating in states where various ethnic groups reside. The bases of the KNU, Mon, and Kayah insurgents are located in the states, but all of these bases—except for two or three KNU bases—are now in our hands. Although it is true that their strength is no longer very considerable, they pledged to wage guerrilla warfare after they lost these camps. They have moved further inside the country, as seen from their attacks on Ye town and Sittang microwave station. Recently, they attacked Bilin, and they have been moving further inside and setting off mine explosions, burning down villages, killing people, and obstructing car and train traffic. Regional and divisional commanders concerned should bear in mind that although their strength is not considerable, they could pose an obstruction and threat to the elections.

The Defense Services were able to hold elections even during the AFPFL and the Lanzin Party eras when the insurgents were still strong in the delta region and Pegu Yoma area. Compared to the situation of that period, the present situation is good. Therefore, there is no reason not to be able to hold the elections. [passage omitted]

Action has been taken against U Nu over the parallel government issue according to Article 10-B. He has been referred to as prime minister forever in the Bhamaso journal issued by the League for Democracy and Peace. [passage omitted] Meanwhile, the BBC, VOA, and All

India Radio are saying that outstanding leaders are under arrest or sentenced; there is no press freedom; there are restrictions on speech; and human rights are being banned. U Nu may not have been aware that his subordinates are declaring him as the prime minister forever. Is this democracy? It implies he cannot be overthrown by anyone. The problem is that U Nu says he will not contest in the elections, but his party says it is contesting and has filed a candidate list. We do not know under what constitution he continues to be the prime minister.

On Armed Forces Day, I have spoken about propaganda on arrest of key leaders and sentence passed on them. U Nu's parallel government amounts to treason, and we could take legal action against him. We have been lenient because of his service to the country at one time. There is also evidence of acts of confrontation by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. It is necessary to understand that she has been restricted to prevent recurrence of confrontation. [passage omitted] We could take legal action and fabricate false accusations. However, we have been lenient in just restricting her, and took it that she did what she did without understanding Myanmar [Burma] politics because she had lived far away from Myanmar. [passage omitted]

As the election approaches, we are again hearing charges that people have been arrested unjustly; that human rights have been restricted and violated; that elections cannot be fair without these people; that elections to be held by the military government will not be fair; and that only elections held by an interim government will be fair. Why the anxiety about our internal affairs? Just think.

Yesterday—on 8 May 1990—I met with the new British ambassador who said, when the issue of the BBC was raised, that the BBC does not speak for the government. He said he had come to promote bilateral relations and economic cooperation. I explained to him our open door economic policy, market economy, and state, cooperative, private, and joint venture concerns. He asked if he could meet representatives of the parties. I told him frankly that he could meet them, and I added there would be no problem as long as his questions were sincere. However, if questions were asked to find fault with us it would contravene diplomatic norms; we would later hear about these things. He said he has no such bias.

Looking at the election situation today, there are altogether 93 political parties. There are six Kachin parties, one Kayah party, three Kayin parties, three Chin parties, one Mon party, 58 Bama [Burmese] parties, seven Rakhine parties, 13 Shan parties, and one Naga party; there are 83 independent candidates. I am saying this because we pledged to hold free and fair elections. Just as we are responsible for observing regulations to ensure the elections are free and fair, the parties and persons responsible must observe their respective codes.

During the elections if any insurgent organization urges, forces, or threatens someone to vote for an organization

or a person, that organization or person will be in trouble as it infringes on the law. Party organizations may not be worried about this matter, but it is very important for us, who have pledged to hold the elections, and we should not be accused of repression and restriction for taking actions against them for their arbitrary acts. If such events do take place, it will be necessary for the regional and divisional commanders as well as chairmen of divisional law and order restoration councils and state law and order restoration councils to present firm evidence. We would not make false charges against anyone.

Because many parties will be contesting, they will campaign fiercely. One party may complain about another party. I would like to urge the regional and regimental commanders and chairmen of the divisional and state law and order restoration councils in areas where there is chaos to keep the situation under control. I say all this because we have received reports and evidence to this effect. Reports come from frontline units as well as from the National Bureau of Investigation and foreign media. For instance, the 14 January 1990 issue of the BANGKOK POST states that Kachin rebels back Suu Kyi as a candidate. The 1 April 1990 issue of THE NEW YORK TIMES states that the Burmese are going to vote; the Army tells them to. The opposition politicians are in prison or under house arrest if they are still alive. [preceding two sentences read in English by speaker] [passage omitted]

On 29 April 1990 a Malaysian radio station carried a report with the title: Underground Groups Opposing the Myanmar Government Hold an Emergency Meeting. In brief, the report citing Bangkok sources said members of the strongest underground groups opposing the Myanmar Government held an emergency meeting that day and deliberations centered on extending 100 percent support to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's opposition party at the nationwide general elections to be held next month. [passage omitted]

I am mentioning this so regional and regimental commanders can think for themselves in working for the elections. I am saying all this to enable you to look from the security viewpoint at the free and fair elections we pledged to hold. I am not saying all this because I want to mention names of parties and persons concerned. I am saying all this objectively; we have in our hands documentary evidence on insurgents, foreign newspapers and journalists supporting these insurgents, and so-called diplomatic circles who support them.

The 1 May 1990 issue of the BANGKOK POST carries a report, headlined Burma Army Lashes Rival Parties, and accuses us of trying to split the NLD and working for the victory of the NUP [National Unity Party]. That is just irresponsible writing. We are public servants and we do not have to favor any party. I am just objectively stating the truth with evidence. [passage omitted] Today we do not have any party behind us. We do not campaign for any party. We do not have to take action against any

party as long as they do not violate the rules. The NUP inherits the Lanzin Party, but has nothing to do with us. [passage omitted]

At the news conference held on 26 April 1990, it was explained that the National Unity Party has been accused of using state funds and state-owned vehicles not in compliance with the law and that the State Law and Order Restoration Council is biased and not taking any action. We accepted the items and funds that were returned by the NUP without telling them what to return. We told the UNDP [Union Nationalities Democracy Party] that if they think this is not justifiable, they should try to settle it by legal means. [passage omitted]

I am telling the truth according to facts. The facts will always be in existence. One day they will be history. If you ask me why I am saying all this, it is because I do not want to be accused of favoring a certain person or party. Although the political parties contesting in the upcoming elections did not say anything, foreign media and newspapers are still writing about it while broadcasting stations are broadcasting discussions on all these articles. That is why I am telling you all this. [passage omitted]

Regional commanders and regimental commanders will need to be especially aware to prevent allegations and propaganda during the election period. I will continue to tell you regional and regimental commanders how we are going to accomplish the fourth task, holding elections, that we have promised. As I have told you before, there are insurgent groups that are telling people which party to vote for and which party to collaborate with, and even saying that elections must not be held in the states.

I could not say in advance that this will never happen in reality. I would like to remind you that as the saying goes—the sky will never fall but if it does—you must also anticipate and think about it if it does happen. If any of these activities are carried out and as soon as you find concrete proof, as there is need for the election commission concerned to report immediately, security organizations in charge must urgently pass the information to various levels. This is important. If such an event takes place it will be necessary to take action according to the election commission laws and rules. [passage omitted]

Regional and regimental commanders: On 5 May 1990 the BBC broadcast a telephone discussion with Myanmar expatriates declaring that the 27 May election to be held by Saw Maung would be neither fair nor free. Therefore, it implicitly calls on parties and persons contesting in the elections to boycott the elections. It mentioned uprooting the Saw Maung military government and the Ne Win military government from the community of nations and humanity.

At 1745 on 3 May 1990, AIR [All India Radio] carried Current Myanmar Affairs and at 2015 on the same day the BBC carried a program reviewing election prospects. There were broadcasts by pro-democracy Myanmar expatriates on the same day. They claimed that these BBC and AIR broadcasts do not represent government

views and that radio stations in democratic countries can freely broadcast. However, there are those in the country who believe these broadcasts. [passage omitted] The people believe in them and misunderstand us. We must take note of this matter.

I will speak about the media issue while I have the opportunity today. Television, radio, magazines, journals, and newspapers worldwide write more on their own conclusions than the correct news and true events. They try to dominate and shape the world in their own fashion through such a method. Not only the small countries like us, but even powerful countries suffer from them. [passage omitted]

We are a military government which is paving the way for democracy and establishing law and order. We will hold the elections according to the provisions of the laws and rules issued by the Elections Commission. The people are to elect according to the laws and rules. Which party wants to come to power? Any representatives of any party can come to power. We have no prejudice whatsoever as to which party or person should win. We should not have such prejudice.

I shall say frankly to regional commanders and regimental commanders. We support the coup d'etat of the Revolutionary Council in 1962. We agree with it. Why? Because the situation at that time was such that if power had not been seized, the Union would have disintegrated. There would have been foreign influence on differences among national people. Not only would the people have fought among themselves, but the foreign powers would have entered the scene. The people at that time were sick of party politics. They may now be saying they disagree, but all the senior military officials signed their names then. They later agreed to march the Burmese Way to Socialism according to the ideals of General Aung San. They were all accepted as party members regardless of their former affiliations. [passage omitted] Officers, unit commanders, and company commanders were organized to become party members, and it was allowed by law. However, under the multiparty system, the law does not allow this. [passage omitted] The Lanzin Party fought against all insurgents irrespective of race and regardless of whether they were Red Flag communists or BCP communists. However, we never fought against good people and ethnic groups. [passage omitted]

I must tell regional commanders and regimental commanders about my displeasure over a matter. Some people are saying the one-party system was applied for an entire 26 years, while others are saying the one-party dictatorship was used and that there was no democracy in the one-party system. They are saying the country became a least developed country because of the one-party dictatorship. They say that under democracy those in power must leave immediately if the people do not like them. [passage omitted]

They referred to Ma-Sa-La and former Ma-Sa-La members. This party no longer exists. We were once members

of this party. I am not hurt by these references. However, I would like to say these references are wrong from the point of view of history and the law. Legally speaking, the 1974 constitution still exists. This law was passed by a national referendum. The states and divisions exist under this law. [passage omitted] The constitution was suspended by the act of the military coup, but we can take from it what is needed. So what about the 1947 constitution? That constitution was suspended when the Revolutionary Council seized power [in 1962]. The most important thing in a country is the constitution, which is the life and soul of a country. General Aung San led in drafting this constitution in 1947, and it was approved by the constituent assembly on 22 September 1947. It took effect on 4 January 1948. [passage omitted]

The foreigners are still refusing to admit there was participation from communist UG's [underground agents of the Burma Communist Party during the 1988 events]. So-called political leaders only looked at strikes in towns, and they were encouraged. We watched the situation in the entire country. They were aware only of the situation around Yangon.

On 23 August 1988, 85 persons under the so-called former patriotic Army regional commanders demanded democratic elections. [passage omitted] On 5 September 1988 demands were made for the formation of an interim government by the so-called Students Movement Supervisory Committee, former General Tin U, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, and Dr. Tin Myo Win. [passage omitted] Had the interim government been formed, what kind of attitude would it have toward the Defense Services? On 5 September 1988 Brigadier Aung Gyi told the BBC that the demand for an interim government was correct. [passage omitted] On 12 September 1988 U Aung Gyi, U Tin U, and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi demanded the formation of an interim government. [passage omitted] A British newspaper, INDEPENDENT, carried a 12-point article reportedly written by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi herself. The 10th point in explaining the presence of communists around Daw Aung San Suu Kyi says assistance from them was obtained with the understanding of working together to achieve democracy. [passage omitted]

A divisional police commander was killed in Taunggyi. On 3 August 1988 military administration was imposed in Yangon. On 8 August 1988 there was some shooting to disperse crowds, and another incident took place downtown. On 10 August an incident occurred in North Okkalapa. There were also other sporadic occurrences. We knew by then that there was BCP influence. [passage omitted]

A review of events in Burma in 1988 shows that it started with the RIT [Rangoon Institute of Technology] students' incident. Subsequent political developments took place. The door was opened to choose between a one-party system and a multiparty system. The way was paved for a referendum to amend the 1974 constitution. There were changes in the presidency followed by more

demonstrations and strikes. The situation deteriorated. The BCP UG's and cells carried out their subtle agitation and spread propaganda. There was another change in the presidency; lenient action was taken according to law. However, it was interpreted as a concession by the government. What happened next? Mr. Solarz came and, without fully studying conditions in the country, proposed that the constitution be set aside and an interim government be formed. Meanwhile, the foreign radio stations stepped up their agitation and advocated democracy. That was external interference.

Internally, former politicians and new politicians pledging to lead the country, intelligentsia, and urban people called for democratic rights. They used the students in their political tactics. Meanwhile, BCP underground organizations tried to undermine law and order and confuse the situation. However, the politicians, urban people, and corrupt blackmarketeers were not aware of this. That was the interference from the leftist BCP elements. [passage omitted] Later, the situation in the country deteriorated into anarchy where fear dominated. While the situation remained in disarray, internal insurgents and leftist and rightist organizations instigated more unrest while military blackmail came from the outside. [passage omitted] By 17 September 1988 the situation was out of control. [passage omitted] On 18 September 1988 we took responsibility to get the situation back under control. [passage omitted]

We assumed state power by virtue of Announcement No. 1/88 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council. [passage omitted] The SLORC formed the Elections Commission. The SLORC allowed formation of political parties and holding of multiparty elections. The SLORC is in charge of all Myanmar affairs. The SLORC remains the government until a new government is formed under a new constitution. [passage omitted] So, no matter what others say, all organizations and people are to act according to SLORC instructions.

The multiparty system, according to the law pledged by the former government, emanates from the force of law [dhamma zet]. That force of law was ineffective. What we are using is the force of power [ahnar zet]. However, we use law as much as possible. We are using both force of law and force of power. We are not demons. We are soldiers. When there is a country, there are the Defense Services. When the Defense Services are destroyed, the country will be destroyed. So we must not tarnish the image of our Defense Services in the coming elections.

Regard the parties as parties until the election of the people's representatives is completed. Do not assist or support any party. Do not favor any party. Stay neutral and impartial. Guide all parties, organizations, and persons so they will not violate the law. Work according to the laws and rules promulgated for the election. Allow everyone the right to vote freely. Take resolute and clear-cut action against anyone found obstructing or using threats in voting. Give protection as much as

possible to ensure there is no obstruction from insurgents. Provide security cover according to law. Provide police if police protection is required. Provide troops in areas contiguous to insurgent areas only with the representatives' agreement. Do not provide protection as an act of altruism. Obtain signatures agreeing to the provision of troops when troops are provided. Do not station them near the polling booths. Station them at the prescribed distance and place.

I have said much. We will issue a separate order for the Defense Services personnel and their dependents. Follow the order accurately. Effective action will be taken when there is a violation. Well, so much for now. You may ask questions later.

Dissident Student Front Denies Bomb Attack

*BK1205130590 Hong Kong AFP in English 1233 GMT
12 May 90*

[Text] Bangkok, May 12 (AFP)—Members of the dissident All Burma Students Democratic Front (ABSDF) have denied involvement in a bomb attack that killed three people in Burma's border town of Myawaddi last week, a statement from the group said here Saturday [12 May]. Referring to local press reports suggesting the student group was responsible for the attack, the statement said the ABSDF had "no intention to harm the people" and "no interest in violent activities like bombing in a crowded place."

A time bomb hidden in a can of seasoning powder exploded at the customs checkpoint at Burma's border trading town of Myawaddi on May 6, instantly killing two customs officers and a Thai village woman and injuring about 12 people. Thai police have handed over to Burmese authorities a 14-year-old Burmese boy who reportedly delivered the seasoning powder cans to Myawaddi from the Thai border town of Mae Sot, some 420 kilometres (260 miles) northwest of here. Another suspect is being held for questioning.

Thousands of Burmese students fled Rangoon and other cities to escape possible Army persecution after their democracy movement was crushed in September 1988. The majority headed for the Thai border area to seek protection and arms training from ethnic rebels controlling the area.

Earlier reports by Western radio stations that ABSDF membership had dwindled to 500 were misleading, the statement said, because many students had had to leave the group upon seeking refugee status from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. "These students, who no longer have the will to carry on the revolutionary struggle and apply for refugee status, are obliged to leave the ABSDF, as it was not a 'refugee organization,'" the statement said. The group still has 2,370 members in sanctuaries close to the Thai-Burmese border, and 200 more on the Bangladesh border, it said.

"We are continually receiving new arrivals due to the increasing oppression and worsening conditions in Burma," the statement said, adding that there was a "strong likelihood" many more will join the ABSDF jungle bases after elections later this month. The military junta led by General Saw Maung, which took power after crushing the nationwide student-led democracy movement, has promised free elections May 27. The ABSDF has charged that the military junta would rig the elections to retain power.

Cambodia

Solomon Says SRV Elements 'Apparently' Present

BK1405074590 Hong Kong AFP in English 0733 GMT 14 May 90

[Text] Bangkok, May 14 (AFP)—A senior U.S. official said here Monday that Vietnamese military elements were "apparently" participating in combat operations in Cambodia. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Solomon, who was addressing a news conference, was apparently the first U.S. official to say publicly that there was still a Vietnamese military presence in Cambodia since Hanoi's announced troop withdrawal from that country in late September.

"To the best of our information... there apparently are at least advisers operating in combat-support roles, intelligence, command and control functions, and actively participating in combat operations going on inside Cambodia," Mr. Solomon said. He cited statements from East European diplomats and an interview by Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach to THE WASHINGTON POST as supporting this. "As far as numbers are concerned, frankly we don't have a clear fix on that. It is probably a number in the low thousands," he said. Mr. Solomon said this showed that the Vietnam-installed Phnom Penh regime, which is fighting a Khmer Rouge-dominated guerrilla coalition, was "still weak, shaky." "Vietnam still feels a need to intervene to shore it up," he said. "We believe strongly that our search for a mechanism that will bring about a political solution that involves the U.N. is the best way to stabilize the situation and enable Vietnam to unburden itself of the responsibility of trying to intervene in the internal security situation in Cambodia", he added.

VODK Says SRV People Cannot Oppose Hanoi

BK1205070990 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 10 May 90

[Article entitled: "The Vietnamese People Under the Vietnamese Dictatorial Regime Have No Rights To Oppose or Protest the Hanoi Authorities' Wrongdoings"]

[Text] Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Dang Nghiem Bai has told another pack of lies, saying Vietnam completely withdrew its troops from Cambodia last September. He has asserted the Vietnamese people

would revolt against the Hanoi authorities if the Vietnamese troops were left in Cambodia. People say that this justification put forth by Dang Nghiem Bai can in no way distort the reality of the presence of over 100,000 SRV troops fighting the Cambodian national resistance forces in Cambodia. If Vietnam wants world opinion to believe that it has totally withdrawn its troops from Cambodia, it should allow a UN international control mechanism [UN-ICM], with the participation of the Cambodian parties, to verify this. The assertion that the Vietnamese people would not remain silent had Vietnam not withdrawn its troops from Cambodia is unacceptable. The Vietnamese people are not like people from other countries who enjoy freedom of expression and have the right to protest against their own governments. The Vietnamese people under the Hanoi authorities' despotic regime have no rights whatsoever to express their views or to stage any protest against the Hanoi leadership. Whoever has the courage to say something against or show discontent with the Hanoi authorities—let alone stage demonstrations—will be arrested and put in jail or executed on the charge of being an antirevolutionary or an imperialist accomplice.

Even with the over 11 years of war against Cambodia which has brought Vietnam's economy to the brink of collapse, the starvation of the Vietnamese people, and the Hanoi authorities' pressing hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese into the army to fight and die in Cambodia, no one is allowed to complain or protest. What the people can do is flee from their homeland with their families in small boats across the ocean to escape the Hanoi authorities' dictatorship.

At present, following the radical changes in the Soviet-bloc countries in East Europe, the Hanoi authorities have built up their security networks for the purpose of suppressing the Vietnamese people. Should any deviation be detected, troops or police would be sent to crack down on the people immediately. As a matter of fact, Vietnamese President Vo Chi Cong has explicitly warned that Vietnam is still using an armed force of about 1.2 million men to quell riots staged against the authoritarian Hanoi regime. As such, how can the Vietnamese people be expected to revolt against a Vietnamese regime which has refused to withdraw its troops from Cambodia? People are well aware of and clearly understand this issue. In any case, the Hanoi authorities can never use their pack of lies.

Sihanouk Addresses Diplomatic Corps in Beijing

BK1305015390 Bangkok THE NATION in English 13 May 90 pp 6, 7

[Address by Prince Norodom Sihanouk to diplomatic corps in Beijing—date not given]

[Text] Regarding my decision taken on 7th May 1990, my Government has already had the honour of conveying to you the documents giving all the necessary explanations and all the desirable clarifications on the reasons which led me to take this decision, as well as on

my intentions concerning my future non-political and non-warring activities at the service of my people. Furthermore, you should have received from my Secretariat excerpts of my letter dated 8th May 1990, addressed to the Khmer Rouge leaders, in response to their letter equally dated 8th May 1990, letter written in Khmer language, in which the Khmer Rouge have begged me to remain and to be active, at the helm of the NCR [Non-Communist Resistance] as President of Cambodia (formerly Democratic Kampuchea). Consequently, I hope you shall have no need of my giving you further explanations and the same precisions and information as those given in the above-mentioned documents.

Certain journalists have, recently, written that I was so afraid of the enemy shelling, of which I was the victim (about a month ago), of Freedom Village (Phum Sereipheap), in the province of Oddar Meanchey, Cambodia, and that I dislike so much the spots where there is not enough luxury to accommodate me that, contrary to my promise, I quickly left my residence at the village Sereipheap to return to live quietly and comfortably in Beijing. Following the failure of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia (August 1989), the new "fashion" among certain mass media consists in showing their contempt for me, ridiculing me and lowering me to the rank of an individual without any moral or political value, without intelligence and... above all, a coward.

Since August 1989, the new "fashion" consists in praising, encouraging and supporting against all odds, those Cambodian "leaders" who accept, in order to enjoy "power, wealth and their super-corruption in Phnom Penh," to give up the independence, the sovereignty, the neutrality, the economic and political independence, the land and sea territorial integrity of their own Motherland, Cambodia, to the advantage of the economic, strategic, expansionist, annexionist, imperialist, neo-colonialist and other interests of certain foreigners, in particular the red Vietnamese and the Soviet hegemonists. Currently, those foreigners reach more and more understanding on a "new look" policy which consists in sharing little by little the remains of tiny and defenceless Cambodia, with the agreement of the regime of the "Quislings" of Phnom Penh.

For several years already, certain mass media and certain foreigners, who had nevertheless known, during the Second World War (1940-1945), what was the Resistance to the enemy's aggression, oppression, expansionism, imperialism and colonialism and the incomparable value of patriotism and popular resistance, these mass media and foreigners willingly forget this value to enhance at maximum the regime of Phnom Penh, which has the "good idea" of giving up the political and economic independence of Cambodia, of sacrificing the territorial integrity of Cambodia and allowing the plundering of the natural resources and the archeological patrimony of Cambodia, to satisfy the needs of the Marxist, Leninist, Hochiminhist regime of Hanoi and its foreign allies or friends.

And thus certain mass media and certain foreigners legitimise and legalize at their will and against the United Nations' decisions, the regime of the traitors of Phnom Penh by calling it the "Government of Cambodia" and, height of absurdity "Cambodia personified"!!, when the Cambodian patriots who fight in the misery and the destitution to try to liberate their Khmer Motherland and recover her territorial integrity become the despicable "rebels". Did they dare, between 1940-1945, to call "rebels" the French, Yugoslav, Ethiopian, Filipino and other resistants who fought for the liberation of their respective countries and against the armies of aggression, occupation and colonization of Hitler, Mussolini and Tojo?

But at the end of the 20th century, the "fashion" consists in sacrificing Cambodia on the altar of the understanding between Ho Chi Minh's Vietnam and its allies and friends, whose economic and other interests coincide. And that is why Sihanouk and the NCR become too bothering and should be sacrificed on the altar of such foreign interests. It is because Sihanouk refuses, as he has always done since the years 50s, to *laissez-faire* colonialism, imperialism, neo-colonialism, annexionism, that certain mass media and certain political circles have done and will do their utmost to discredit him, humiliate him and to lower him at maximum.

To return to the question of Freedom Village (Phum Sereipheap), in the province of Oddar Meanchey, Cambodia, the question of my fleeing or leaving it did never arise and does not arise. Since the 23rd February 1990, it has become my sole official residence. And the shelling by the Viet-Hun Sen artillery has not prevented and will not prevent me from returning there every month from China (my second Motherland) to live and work among the Khmer population and to receive there Cambodian and foreign visitors.

In this regard, I must pay homage to the glorious, generous and very benevolent Kingdom of Thailand, to her respected government and her prestigious Army which have always granted and continue to grant me, since the 22nd June 1982 (date of the formation of the CGDK [Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea]), all kinds of assistances and facilities without which it would be absolutely impossible for me to reach, every year (since 1982), one or another liberated zone of the NCR, and now to reach and to live in Sereipheap.

My monthly trips from Sereipheap to Beijing, via Bangkok, have become necessary, because, first, my aunt (Princess Mom) and my mother-in-law (Madame Pomme) aged respectively 87 and 86 years, are seriously ill and, every time that my wife and I return to Thailand and Sereipheap (Cambodia), they are anxious and their illnesses get worse, despite the incomparable care given by the eminent doctors of the PRC. My wife and I must come every month, to Beijing, to see and comfort them again; second, the leadership and the government of the PR of China wish that, every month, I can return for at least a few days in order for us not to loose contact,

because they say and repeat, "Beijing is equally your home and you have kindly considered the PRC as your second Motherland."

A newspaper, on 8th May 1990, wrote that my decision of the 7th May 1990 was a "coup directed against Thailand" (sic!) and that "General Chawalit Yongchaiyut will not like it" (sic!). In this regard, I wish to point out that I am not an ungrateful man: I shall never forget what Thailand, since June 1982, has done and continues to do for the Cambodian Resistance, for myself, for the Cambodian refugees, for the Sihanoukist and Royalist Cambodians. The injustice and hostility of this newspaper are outrageous.

In effect, I respect too much His Majesty the King of Thailand and the Thai Nation to allow myself the liberty of giving "coups" to Thailand. If I disliked Thailand, I would not have decided in February 1990, to go and live in Sereipheap because my installation and my life in Sereipheap would be absolutely impossible and untenable if between Thailand, her army and her government and I there wasn't mutual friendship and trust. By choosing to take up residence at Sereipheap, I choose ipso facto for myself as well as for post-national liberation Cambodia, Thailand as one of the greatest, intimate and everlasting friends of Cambodia and the Royal Khmer Family.

Since the 7th May 1990, I have decided not to involve myself in politics any longer. Allow me, in concluding this expose to say only, outside politics, this one thing: The Hun Sen-Sihanouk talks would not serve the cause of peace in Cambodia. It would be a never ending theatre. For peace to return to Cambodia, it is necessary to encourage at maxima Cambodian quadripartite talks, and the formation of a provisional quadripartite government of national reconciliation of Cambodia.

A few hours after I had completed drafting this expose to your intention, I received the important news, according to which the regime of Mr Hun Sen in Phnom Penh refuses to allow me to enter in the zones under its administration in order to contribute to the rehabilitation of the Cambodian people. This refusal shows that the regime of Hun Sen is afraid of seeing the immense majority of the Cambodian people express their faithful love for Sihanouk and to see also my popularity overshadow that, overrated, of Hun Sen.

This refusal shows equally that the regime of Hun Sen is too attached to their privileges, does not possess any patriotic sense and does not certainly favour national reconciliation and the return of peace within the Cambodian nation, whilst my acceptance to go to work, in the humanitarian field, in the zones not yet liberated by the NCR and under the administration of the pro-Vietnamese regime of Hun Sen should, if this regime was patriotic and sincerely wished the well-being of the Cambodian people, provide it with an ideal opportunity to make progress, for the first time, in the peace process in favour of the Cambodian people. Moreover, this

people under the Hunsenian administration confronts dramatic and acute problems of malnutrition, diseases, lack of education, etc... My going to work among this unhappy people and lacking so many things, would have brought to them the aids needed by them which would come from many rich countries sympathetic to Sihanouk. Alas, the pro-Vietnamese regime of Hun Sen has decided otherwise. By ostracizing Sihanouk, the Phnom Penh regime condemns Cambodia to an endless war and its people to the blackest and the most humiliating misery.

Sihanouk Urges Resistance To Help in 'Mission'

BK1305112190 Hong Kong AFP in English 1058 GMT 13 May 90

[Text] Beijing, May 13 (AFP)—Prince Norodom Sihanouk called Sunday [13 May] on the leaders of the tripartite resistance movement to help him on his "humanitarian mission" to parts of Cambodia under its control. In a message from Beijing made public Sunday, the former Cambodian monarch asked faction leaders Son Sann of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, Khieu Samphan of the Khmer Rouge, and his own son, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, to help him form a team to launch the effort in the "liberated zones of Cambodia," having been denied access to other parts.

The prince, who last Monday dropped all "political and war" duties to devote himself exclusively to the reconstruction of Cambodia, asked each faction to designate two "good diplomats" willing to work without pay and help him gather equipment and supplies. He said forming the team would help "avoid being suspected of corruption." The team would go with him into Cambodia or if necessary to North Korea or China, the two principal backers of the resistance.

The prince said he was determined to go "in person to serve the inhabitants of poor villages in the liberated zones," beginning with the area along the border with Thailand. He said his "humanitarian and nonpolitical" mission would give priority to supplying potable water, building health clinics and schools, restoring Buddhist pagodas and reviving farming and handicrafts.

"It is out of the question for me to go to the zones controlled by (Cambodian Premier) Hun Sen because this Hun Sen and his Hanoi patron do not allow me to enter in these areas," the prince said in his message. The Phnom Penh government was installed in January 1979 following a Vietnamese invasion to topple the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge, which is accused of killing hundreds of thousands of civilians while in power from 1975.

Sihanouk Asks Son Sann To Talk With Hun Sen

BK1305061890 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 13 May 90

[Text] The Voice of the Khmer newsroom has received a report saying that His Royal Highness Samdech Preah

Norodom Sihanouk has decided to go to Japan in early June but will not hold talks with Hun Sen. He has asked His Excellency Son Sann, prime minister of the National Government of Cambodia and president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), to meet Hun Sen in his place and on behalf of himself, the KPNLF, the party of Democratic Kampuchea (DK), and the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia (FUCINPEC).

In a letter to his son Prince Norodom Ranariddh, the samdech said that Thailand and Japan wanted him to attend the 4-6 June summit meeting in Tokyo. The samdech added that he would go just to show deference to Japan. He said that in order to pay homage to Japan and Thailand, and with the view of seeing peace restored to Cambodia, he would ask His Excellency Son Sann, prime minister of UN-recognized Cambodia, to hold talks with Hun Sen in Tokyo as scheduled, on behalf of himself, the KPNLF, the DK party, and the FUCINPEC.

Son Sann on Sihanouk's 'Leave of Absence'

BK1305070290 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 13 May 90

[Text] His Excellency Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) and prime minister of the national government of Cambodia, said he hoped that His Royal Highness Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk would certainly reverse his decision on taking a leave of absence from the leadership of the resistance. His excellency said in Geneva, Switzerland that he had learned of the samdech's decision through the press and hoped to meet Sihanouk soon. His Excellency Son Sann added that the samdech is a key figure in the search for a political settlement of the Cambodian problem. He also said that things were far from encouraging but that it is darkest just before the dawn.

Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk had said he would go to Tokyo but would not meet Hun Sen. He requested, however, that His Excellency Son Sann hold talks with Hun Sen in his own name and on behalf of the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia, the party of Democratic Kampuchea, and the KPNLF.

Early this week, Ieng Muli, KPNLF general secretary, said in an interview with the Voice of the Khmer radio in Thmar Puok township that the KPNLF still considers Sihanouk the top leader of the Cambodian resistance and that the front supported the five UN Security Council members' position on Cambodia which endorses the samdech's nine-point plan as the groundwork for a settlement of the Cambodian problem.

His Excellency Son Sann arrived in Geneva on Friday [11 May] to open a photography exhibition on Cambodia and Afghanistan.

Hun Sen Reaffirms Will Attend Tokyo Talks

BK1205122690 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1111 GMT 12 May 90

[Text] Phnom Penh 14 May (SPK)—Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen indicated he was going ahead with the plan to meet Prince Sihanouk in Tokyo in early June. Speaking on Friday [11 May] at the closing session of a meeting to review military activities during the past dry season, Hun Sen lashed out at the prince's latest gesture and said he was certain the prince would change his mind and attend the meeting in Tokyo.

Prime Minister Hun Sen who is also a member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Political Bureau and foreign minister, spoke of the latest developments in the region and the world regarding a political solution to the Cambodian problem.

He stressed the Cambodian problem should be resolved on the basis of independence, peace, and national reconciliation. "Cambodia is still in the stage of conducting fighting and negotiation at the same time; in other words we must resolve the issue both militarily and politically," Hun Sen concluded.

Philippines

Two U.S. Servicemen Killed in Pampanga

HK1405022990 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 14 May 90 pp 1, 6

[Text] Angeles City—Two more American Air Force Servicemen were killed last night by gunmen believed to be communist rebels outside a hotel in Dau, Mabalacat, Pampanga. Police identified the victims as John Raven and James Green, both detailed at Clark from the Aircraft Generation Squadron of the U.S. Air Force in Kunsan, South Korea. The killing came on the eve of the RP[Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. exploratory talks on the fate of the U.S. military bases in the country and 10 days after the slaying of U.S. Marine Sgt. John Fredette in Olongapo City.

Witnesses said Raven, 22, Green, 23, and a third American serviceman, identified as Ronald Moore, 22, were stepping out of the Holiday Hotel in Dau, some two kilometers from main gate of the Clark air base, when three armed men approached them and opened fire shortly before 9 p.m. The victims were dead on the spot. One of them was hit in the forehead. Police said Moore escaped unhurt by running inside the hotel. Witnesses said the gunmen fled aboard a tricycle. Police said they recovered five empty shells of .45 caliber pistols. Witnesses said the killing fit the pattern of killings pulled off by Sparrow Units of the New People's Army (NPA).

U.S. officials had expressed fears that the NPA might stage assassination attempts against senior American officials in the run-up of the bases exploratory talks, which start today.

Police said another shooting occurred simultaneously with the Americans' killing. A civilian was shot dead in Sitio Duquit in Dau, but police could not say if it was a diversion for the shooting of the two U.S. Air Force men.

The killing prompted a reimposition of the travel restrictions on American personnel at Clark, Subic naval base and four other American military facilities in the country. Within an hour of the shooting last night, squad patrols made up of American and Filipino soldiers made the rounds of nightspots along Fields Avenue, Angeles City's red-light district, and urged Americans to return to base. Last night's killing came only a few days after American military authorities lifted the travel restriction, which brought businesses in Angeles City and Olorigapo City to a standstill, following the killing of Fredette.

Police still have no suspects in last night's shooting. Three suspects in Fredette's killing, which was initially blamed on communist rebels, have been arrested although the fiscal had ordered their release reportedly because they were arrested without warrants.

The victims, who were originally based in South Korea, were at Clark for "Operation Cope Thunder," a military exercise involving Australia, Japan, the Philippines and other Asian countries.

Ramos Orders Manhunt

*HK1405100990 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company
DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 14 May 90*

[By Eloi Aquino of Mobile Unit No. 12—italicized portions in English]

[Excerpt] Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos assailed the killing of two U.S. airmen yesterday in Angeles City. At the same time, he ordered acting Armed Forces of the Philippines chief of staff Major General Rodolfo Biazon to carry out an intensive manhunt for the killers. Ramos issued the directive after the flag-raising ceremony at the Philippine Navy headquarters this morning. [passage omitted] Ramos ordered Biazon to launch an intensive manhunt and arrest the suspects immediately. He said that the initial report or preliminary findings should be given to him within 48 hours.

[Begin Ramos recording] *[words indistinct] may specifically determine the chief CPP-NPA [Communist Party of the Philippine-New People's Army] elements or criminal elements or both were involved in the killing. And I have asked that an initial report of their preliminary findings be given to me in 48 hours.*

We hope that we shall get to the bottom of this very tragic incident which [words indistinct], and we would like to assure the residents of Angeles City as well as the personnel in Clark Air Base, as well as the U.S. authorities, that no stone will be left unturned until we can catch the perpetrators of this incident. [end recording]

Aquino Addresses Nation on Bases Talks 13 May
*BK1305114090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1124 GMT
13 May 90*

[Text] Manila, May 13 (AFP)—President Corazon Aquino pledged Sunday to uphold the national interest as the Philippines prepared to enter talks with Washington Monday on the future of U.S. military bases in this former American colony.

Richard Armitage, a former U.S. assistant secretary of defense for international security affairs and named by U.S. President George Bush as his chief negotiator, arrived in Manila Sunday on the eve of the talks, witnesses said. He gave no statement upon arrival.

Riot police were on full alert Sunday and officials said more than 1,000 would be on duty around the Central Bank compound, the venue of the talks, to head off possible disruptions by anti-U.S. demonstrations planned for Monday.

"We enter these talks with our national interest as paramount consideration," Mrs. Aquino said in a nationwide television broadcast, adding that her government was "determined to uphold all constitutional provisions regarding these bases." The constitution states that the current lease on the facilities, the largest outside the United States, runs out in September 1991 and all foreign bases will be banned afterwards except under a new treaty to be ratified by the Senate.

The outlawed National Democratic Front (NDF) urged Filipinos in statements sent to news agencies here Sunday to oppose "in any form and at any price" any new treaty on Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base. The NDF coalition includes the communist New People's Army, whose guerrillas have assassinated three U.S. servicemen and two U.S. Defense Department consultants since 1987 as part of their campaign to end U.S. support to Mrs. Aquino.

The talks will occur against a backdrop of easing global tensions coupled with mounting domestic pressure on Mrs. Aquino to remove the most glaring vestiges of the cold war and U.S. rule in this former colony. The thaw in U.S.-Soviet ties, reforms in the socialist world, and U.S. budgetary problems have put pressure on Washington to scale down its military spending and cut back on overseas bases and troops. But Mrs. Aquino, who has enjoyed heavy U.S. support, including intervention by Clark-based jets during a bloody coup attempt in December, is widely expected to agree to a new bases treaty, if the terms are right.

Mrs. Aquino said Sunday that regardless of the outcome of the talks, "our government has already begun to look beyond the bases", and said she has ordered parts of the facilities already in Philippine Government hands to civilian uses. She did not specify these measures, but officials previously said the plans include the transfer of Philippine military camps to these facilities, the transfer of Manila Airport to Clark, and the creation of industrial

enclaves in these areas. "We are entering into these talks prepared to maintain our friendly relations with the United States, keeping in mind that any friendship must be based on respect for each other's rights and adherence to principles," Mrs. Aquino said. "We are prepared to look toward opportunities for friendly relations and cooperation with the United States over and above the military facilities," she said without elaborating.

Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, the chief Philippine negotiator, was expected to push the issue of U.S. compensation for the bases on the agenda for the talks, which Manila has described as exploratory and intended to determine if both countries will proceed to full-blown negotiations on a new treaty. The first thing both sides will have to clear up is how Washington will remedy a huge shortfall in military and economic aid it promised Manila for hosting the bases.

Once that issue is resolved, the next question is how much Washington will pay Manila to keep the bases. Before Mr. Armitage left for Manila, military officials in Washington said he could put forward a bold proposal: the United States will pull out of Clark, keep Subic and maintain current levels of compensation. Observers said such a compromise might work: it would make the U.S. Congress happy by keeping bases spending in check, and allow Mrs. Aquino to mollify anti-U.S. critics and get a new treaty approved by the Philippine Senate.

Talks on U.S. Bases Begin at Central Bank

*HK1405062190 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan
in Tagalog 0600 GMT 14 May 90*

[Text] The United States has appealed for new strategic ties with the Philippines as the exploratory talks started this morning in the Central Bank building. At the same time, U.S. chief negotiator Richard Armitage condemned the killing of two U.S. servicemen in Angeles City yesterday. He said that the efforts to destroy the relationship between the two countries will be unsuccessful. In his introductory speech, Armitage cited the importance of the U.S. bases in the Philippines for stability and peace in Asia. However, they are prepared to withdraw from the country after September 1991 if this is the will of the Filipinos. According to him, the United States would like its military bases to remain until the end of the decade.

Meanwhile, Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus said that the U.S. air cover support during the failed December coup was helpful. But the United States is not fulfilling its pledge of assistance to the Philippines this year in exchange for the use of the military facilities. He said that the bilateral relations of the two countries will not improve if one side does not fulfill its pledge.

Congressman Sees New U.S. Bases Agreement

*HK1405051790 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan
in Tagalog 0400 GMT 14 May 90*

[Italicized portions in English]

[Text] Congressman Bonifacio Gillego of Sorsogon thinks that the Philippines' move to hold the exploratory talks will give way to a new bases agreement. In a radio interview, he said that the country's acceptance of the Philippine Aid Plan [PAP] and the government's gesture to seek assistance at the height of the December coup has weakened the Philippine stand.

[Begin Gillego recording] Our position is very weak. *First we accepted the PAP. If you read the proceedings of the Solarz Committee before it was launched, it is connected with the military bases.*

During the height of the coup during the political crisis, we requested U.S. assistance. [end recording]

NPA Declares 'War' Against U.S. Forces

*HK1405095790 Hong Kong AFP in English 0941 GMT
14 May 90*

[Excerpts] Manila, May 14 (AFP)—Filipino communist guerrillas declared an all-out war against U.S. forces in the Philippines Monday as the two countries began negotiations on the future of American military facilities in this country.

"Go home immediately or suffer the agony of attrition," the New People's Army (NPA) general command said in a statement sent to news agencies here a day after suspected NPA gunmen shot dead two U.S. airmen outside U.S. Clark Air Base north of Manila. "The NPA pledges that all its territorial and unit commands, all officers and men, will carry out their mission—to the last man if necessary—of expelling U.S. imperialism out of our country," it added.

The statement did not mention the murder late Sunday of U.S. Airmen John Raven and James Green, which has been blamed by both the U.S. and Philippine Government on the NPA. [passage omitted]

The NPA branded Philippine negotiators at the ongoing bases talks as "traitors," and warned them to "reexamine their opportunist deeds" because "all traitors will be tried by the people and meted out just punishment." It claimed that the talks on Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base, being conducted by Philippine Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus and former Pentagon official Richard Armitage here, were "the preparation of a bilateral plan to extend the tenure of U.S. bases."

The NPA urged Filipinos to take part in "driving away the U.S. bases and occupation troops in whatever manner and to whatever extent everyone is capable of," and called on Philippine troops to "do their share in striking militarily against U.S. bases and occupation troops."

NDF Calls on Filipinos To Oppose U.S. Bases*BK1305094890 Hong Kong AFP in English 0937 GMT
13 May 90*

[Text] Manila, May 13 (AFP)—Communist insurgents urged Filipinos Sunday [13 May] to oppose "in any form and at any price" the U.S. military presence in the Philippines, ahead of talks between the two governments Monday on the future of U.S. bases here. The outlawed National Democratic Front (NDF) charged that President Corazon Aquino has already decided to keep Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base in the country after their current lease expires in September 1991, making the exploratory talks "one of the biggest charades ever." The NDF is an umbrella organization that includes the communist New People's Army, whose guerrillas have assassinated three U.S. servicemen and two U.S. Defense Department consultants since 1987 as part of their campaign to end U.S. support for Mrs. Aquino. The group urged Filipinos to "vigorously resist the extension of the bases treaty in any form and at any price."

Washington has said it will seek a new treaty on Clark and Subic to maintain its 43-year military presence in this former U.S. colony.

Mrs. Aquino's official stance is that Washington must first settle unpaid compensation for use of the bases before Manila would decide whether even to discuss a new treaty. But in a statement hand-carried by rebel couriers to news agencies here, the NDF said the negotiating teams would be "going through the motions of talking merely to buttress Cory Aquino's 'open options' policy—a stance she has had to take for reasons of political expediency." It said Mrs. Aquino was "wary of sending the wrong signals" to Washington, which provided air cover to Philippine troops in December as they crushed the sixth and most serious coup attempt against Mrs. Aquino since she came to power four years ago.

Budget constraints may lead Washington to close a few of its unimportant facilities in this country and "euphemistically couch the retention of Clark and Subic through such terms as phaseout, joint use or conversion," the statement added.

It urged Mrs. Aquino to "use tomorrow's meeting to serve the U.S. with the notice of termination."

Antiriot Police Guard Venue of Bases Talks*HK1405051990 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan
in Tagalog 0400 GMT 14 May 90*

[Text] Regarding the security situation around the Central Bank building, Capital Regional Command chief Brigadier General Marino Filart has deployed 500 antiriot policemen in the area. All persons and vehicles entering the Central Bank will undergo a strict investigation in order to avoid the entry of firearms and explosives.

Other areas that are being closely watched are the U.S. Embassy, the Philippine International Convention Center, and other important government installations in Metro Manila.

Antibases Protesters To March to U.S. Embassy*HK1405091990 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company
DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 14 May 90*

[Interview with 1 May Movement Chairman Crispin Beltran by Vic Pambuan; place and date not given]

[Text] [Pambuan] In connection with the anti-bases demonstration launched by the 1 May Movement [KMU] Chairman Crispin Beltran and League of Filipino Students [LFS] head Nathaniel Santiago, here are the statements by the leaders:

[Beltran] We are going to the U.S. Embassy where we will announce our three demands to the heads of the embassy. One, the exploratory talks should be used as an occasion for the Philippine Government to serve the notice of termination of the military bases agreement. Two, the phase-out of the bases should begin now and continue up to 16 September 1991. And instead of a military bases agreement, a treaty of amity and cooperation between the Philippines and the United States, which must be non-military in character, should be concluded. These are the demands we are conveying in this demonstration.

[Pambuan] Where is Nathaniel?

[Santiago] The violent dispersal earlier today, as well as the arrest of more than 100 peaceful demonstrators, was very painful. For us, this just shows that the Aquino government is weak and soft when facing the United States and pressing for our sovereignty, but is cruel and tough when facing the nationalist people who are protesting for the country's sovereignty.

[Pambuan] Comrade Crispin, what action will you take in view of the strict security measures near the U.S. Embassy?

[Beltran] We will go there and talk to them. And if they refuse us, we will still carry on with our demonstration. We will definitely not let them foil a peaceful rally. We will make sure that our demonstration is peaceful in front of the embassy, but they should not try to block us. This is our statement. The people today are united and determined to act and march in front of the U.S. Embassy. To avoid problems, they should not block us from marching to the U.S. Embassy. Thank you.

[Pambuan] Those were the statements of the two leaders of the two groups. They claimed that nothing will stop them from heading to the U.S. Embassy along Roxas Boulevard.

Two Arrested for 10 May U.S. Embassy Rally

*HK1105143890 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog
1300 GMT 11 May 90*

[Text] Two student leaders were arrested for leading an anti-bases rally at the U.S. Embassy. Arrested were Amante Jimenez, president of the University of the Philippines' student council; and Dante Calican. They led 70 students who staged a rally up to the U.S. Embassy gates without the necessary permit. However, the remaining demonstrators continued to deliver speeches in a park near the embassy before proceeding to a police station where the two leaders were detained.

Further Reportage on Philippine Airline Fire

Bomb Suspected Cause

*OW1205085990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0841 GMT
12 May 90*

[Text] Manila, May 12 KYODO—A crude incendiary device could have caused the explosion that triggered a fire aboard a Philippine Airlines jet Friday that killed eight passengers and injured more than 80 others, an air safety official said Saturday. "The explosion was weak ... if it were strong, the roof would have been blown off," said the official, who asked not to be identified. "The damage to the upper section was caused by the fire."

Earlier, Air Transport Chief Oscar Alejandro ruled out mechanical and systems failures as causes for the blast, which struck the midsection of the Boeing 737 as it was being towed to the runway Friday afternoon. "How can it be mechanical when they did not even start the engine," he said late Friday, after investigators began sifting through the plane's wreckage for clues to the blast.

Philippine Airlines Vice President Enrique Santos said parts of the aircraft which bore blast marks were turned over to the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) for forensic examination.

He said the explosion took place under a seat at 3:30 P.M. Friday while the plane's crew was demonstrating safety measures. The Boeing 737 was to take off for Iloilo, some 460 kilometers south of Manila. A major disaster was prevented when the flight was delayed for three minutes after its main door jammed. The device apparently was timed to go off upon flight, officials said. Officials refused to say whether the explosive was planted by terrorists. No bomb threats that day were reported, however, they said.

Meanwhile, Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos Saturday ordered the Air Force security command to secure airports nationwide and to conduct its own investigation. It is to submit its findings on Monday.

Survivors spoke of passengers panicking and trampling over one another in their panic to escape the burning aircraft.

The incident was the worst involving a Philippine Airlines aircraft in the past two years. Last July, a BAC-111 jet overshot the Manila runway and slammed into a busy highway, killing eight people on the ground.

Airline Official Interviewed

*OW1105130590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1232 GMT
11 May 90*

[Text] Manila, May 11 KYODO—Seven persons were killed and 27 others hurt on Friday when an explosion triggered a fire in a Philippine Airlines [PAL] domestic flight with 119 passengers on board, airline and airport officials said.

PAL Vice President Enrique Santos told KYODO news service that four bodies were initially recovered from the plane's wreckage. Three other fatalities were later found by rescuers, including that of a 6-year-old boy.

A Japanese national, Takeaki Tasaki, was among the passengers but was not injured, authorities said. He was reported to have checked in at the nearby Philippine Village Hotel.

Santos said the explosion occurred at 3:30 PM [0530 GMT] at the midsection of the Boeing 737 as the crew were demonstrating safety measures. Santos said the aircraft's engine was still off as the plane was being towed toward the runway for takeoff. The flight was bound for Iloilo City, 460 kilometers south of Manila. He said the explosion was followed by fire which filled the airplane's cabin with smoke. Passengers scampered out of the plane through its emergency chute while others jumped out to escape from the burning aircraft.

"They had just finished demonstrating safety precautionary measures and we were all seated. Suddenly there was a deafening explosion and thick smoke and fire," said Sony Villareal, 30. Villareal said he heard only one explosion, then saw the other passengers rushing to the exit. "The passengers panicked. They were shouting and I felt nervous. There was a stampede for the exits, and some passengers were stepped on by other passengers." "I jumped because the chute did not open," added Villareal, who suffered minor burns.

Survivors were taken to hospitals near the airport, most of them suffering from smoke inhalation and bruises.

Aurelio Periquet, a prominent business leader and chairman of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce, was among the passengers, according to Transportation Secretary Oscar Orbos. Periquet suffered no injuries.

President Corazon Aquino ordered Orbos to investigate the incident and also instructed top airline officials to provide immediate assistance to the victims.

Aquino Orders Investigation

*HK1105141090 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog
1300 GMT 11 May 90*

[Text] President Corazon Aquino has ordered Transportation Secretary Oscar Orbos to thoroughly investigate an incident involving a Philippine Air Lines [PAL] plane. Orbos immediately went to the domestic airport to inquire about the incident. The president has already extended her condolences to the families of the dead and wounded. Here is Press Secretary Tomas Gomez III:

[Begin Gomez recording] *President Aquino has instructed the DOTC [Department of Transportation and Communication] to immediately proceed to the airport in view of the incident involving Philippine Air Lines Flight 143, from Manila bound for Iloilo, that caught fire. President Aquino also directed Executive Secretary Catalino Macaraig Jr., PAL chairman; and Dante Santos, PAL president to provide immediate assistance to the families of the dead and injured as well as to the other passengers.* [end recording]

Aquino Discusses PAP Chairman, Power Pilferage

*HK1005103190 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog
0900 GMT 10 May 90*

[Text] Malacanang has not yet confirmed Finance Secretary Jesus Estandia as chairman of the Philippine Aid Plan [PAP].

Regarding the power crisis, President Aquino has ordered the active participation of the National Bureau of Investigation [NBI] to arrest those people who are connecting jumpers to power lines. Press Undersecretary Lourdes Siyango read the president's statement:

[Begin recording] The PAP coordinating council chairman Roberto Villanueva has got to be replaced due to the advice of his doctor to slow down for the sake of his heart. The [word indistinct] is well underway, thanks to chairman Villanueva. While so much remains to be done, the program has won the support and commitment of the international community after the crucial pledging session in Tokyo last July. I am optimistic that we will be able to sustain the momentum this year and to ensure that we have to tap someone who can keep up the vigorous pace that chairman Villanueva has set. I shall announce the change at the proper time.

The figures are wrong. Meralco's [Manila Electric Company] total system's law on pilferage and technical causes now stands at 15 percent, broken down into six percent because of pilferage and nine percent for technical reasons. As there are penal laws against theft of electricity, the first and immediate step is to enforce them vigorously. I am directing NBI director Alfredo Lim to [word indistinct] usage of government nominee on the Meralco board, to forthwith take steps to apply the available sanctions against all violators.

Mr. Sixto Roxas is really advocating a parliamentary system as he did in 1971 before the Constitutional Convention of that year. Our people, however, have overwhelmingly approved the present 1987 Constitution providing for a president directly elected by our people for a fixed term. The point is to make our democratic system work effectively for our people's welfare. To this end, all of us must unite and strive unceasingly rather than pursue sterile arguments on forms and structures. [end recording]

Lower House Opposition Chooses New Leader

*HK1405064990 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
GLOBE in English 14 May 90 p 6*

[By Rowena Bundang]

[Text] The 19-member opposition bloc in the House of Representatives has chosen Rep. Salvador Escudero III (KBL [New Society Movement], Sorsogon) as its new head in a leadership reshuffle that takes place every year. The bloc will nominate officially Escudero anytime now on the floor as the new minority leader, a post earlier held by former Rep. Ali Dimaporo, who ran but lost in the Mindanao autonomous region gubernatorial race.

Escudero said that at the opening of Congress in July 1987, the group agreed to name a new head every year. But it was only last year, he said, that the group decided to replace Rep. Rodolfo Albano (KBL, Isabela) as the minority leader. Sources attributed Albano's replacement to his alleged closeness to the House leadership. But Albano said that although he maintains a close relationship to the leadership, he has never betrayed or forsaken his group.

Escudero said that the experience and active participation in official House matters were the key factors used by the group in choosing its new head. Other active opposition members that are likely to be nominated to the post either in 1991 or 1992 are congressmen Jose Rono (Samar), Victor Ortega (La Union), Antonio Abaya (Isabela) and even Albano.

Workers Warned Not To Press for Wage Hike

*HK1005031990 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
GLOBE in English 10 May 90 p 6*

[By staff writer Fely C. Gob]

[Text] Workers were advised yesterday to abandon any plans of presenting demands for wage increases during the National Tripartite Conference on Industrial Peace, which starts tomorrow, because employers will reject the demands anyway.

Francisco Floro, president of the Employers Confederation of the Philippines (ECOP), said most employers have yet to comply with the P[pesos]25 daily wage increase mandated by Republic Act 6727, which took effect on July 1, 1989, as inspectors of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) have reported. This

shows that the majority of the 300,000 firms registered with the DOLE cannot afford to grant wage increases every year, he said. Floro said, however, that the employers "are willing to go through the process" of hearing the workers' side during the conference. The ECOP will consult its regional chapters and various employers' associations affiliated with it, he added.

The conservative Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP) is demanding a P30 increase in the daily wage, while the militant Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) [1 May Movement] wants a P23 increase.

The ECOP, which objected to the inclusion of the wage issue in the list of topics to be taken up during the conference at the Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP) in Tagaytay, agreed earlier this week to put "income and prices" on the agenda, but without necessarily taking up the wage issue. But TUCP president Democrito Mendoza said the workers' delegates to the conference will insist on bringing up the wage issue. The TUCP and the Labor Advisory and Consultative Council (LACC) are official dialogue participants.

On Tuesday, the TUCP said it would present its demand for a wage hike to the 13 Regional Tripartite Wage Boards of the National Wages and Productivity Commission (NWPC), "as a gesture of respect for the commission and in the spirit of tripartism." But NWPC Executive Director Carmelita Pineda said the operations of the commission may not be fully effective until June when problems on financing and staffing shall have been solved. Nicanor Elman of the KMU, however, said that his group will not submit formal petitions to the regional wage boards. KMU will demand that the national minimum wage level be converted first to a "living wage" equivalent to about P150 a day.

The ECOP president said that only after consulting the regional chapters "shall we submit responses to the respective wage boards pertaining to wage increase demands brought to their offices." Floro also said that he expects the regional wage boards to have their hands full since the merits of wage hike petitions will have to be weighed against varying standards of living in their areas and the viability of local companies.

Meanwhile, members of the Pambansang Diwa ng Manggagawang Pilipino (PDMP) [National Spirit of Filipino Workers] will picket the DOLE today to protest Labor Secretary Ruben D. Torres's refusal to grant them delegate status. PDMP president Roberto Oca said Torres granted his group only an observer status and allowed it to send five delegates. Oca accused Torres of bowing to pressures from the TUCP and the LACC. Oca warned that the PDMP pickets will affect some 300 companies in Metro Manila that hire mostly pier, garments and chemical workers.

Paper Criticizes May Day Attack on Press

*HK1105105890 Quezon City MALAYA in English
10 May 90 p 4*

[Column by Jerry Barican: "Attack on the press"]

[Text] You don't have to be cause-oriented to be angry over the May Day riot by some "anti-riot" troops at Clark Air Base. Conservatives ought to be, if anything, more furious at this state-supported anarchy.

The rallyists from the left, who were demonstrating for the dismantling of the U.S. bases for the nth time, claim the attack was unprovoked. More likely, the mix was volatile: the demonstrators were shouting their chants and slogans in the middle of hostile country (angeles); the words used were, I do not doubt, both strong and provocative (they always are at rallies, since time immemorial to time everlasting); the troops were ill-trained or ill-disciplined (if they attacked without orders; if they attacked under orders to do what they did, the officers are responsible) as well as tense and justifiably resentful of the treacherous attacks on them by Sparrows (the troops probably see the demonstrators as fellow travelers). The rallyists tried to storm the gate to post an "eviction" notice. A dangerous brew indeed and the result was predictable.

In the process, some of the troops ran wild. How wild is evidenced by their attack on the press. They reportedly viciously and indiscriminately beat up everyone in sight. Despite the large and colorful press ID cards, the newsmen and press photographers were not spared. One of them lost an eye from the beating (the purpose of the troops in attacking obviously being to intimidate the press against photographing the troops' acts). It was a police riot, plain and simple. And if you doubt this is what happened, the photographic evidence is all over the newspapers and on TV news reels. It is bad enough that these troops became a law unto themselves (ordinary citizens like law and order, and discipline). Worse, they have done themselves and the armed forces great propaganda harm (this will be cited by enemies of our way of life as conclusive proof that our military is irretrievably fascist). Had there been self-restraint, not only could the rally have been unmemorable but more important, the law would have been upheld.

What is unforgivable is the attack on the press. Normally, the press man, like the Red Cross, is the invisible man: he is there but no one sees him. The press man is an impartial observer, out to report what happens. Traditionally, that neutrality has been respected by both sides. It is a dismal commentary on the times that this civilized state of affairs has completely broken down. Red Cross volunteers whose only aim has been to succor the wounded on whichever side have been shot at and killed. Radio commentators and writers have been kidnapped because of their views. Some anti-communist newsmen have been killed, presumably by the NPA [New People's

Army]. On the other hand, leftist newsmen have been salvaged. This is a war and neutrals are no longer recognized.

For as long as government tolerates this state of affairs, it contributes to the polarizing of our society and ultimately, to its collapse. That is why the attack on the press is even more repulsive than the violence done to the rallyists, wrong though that may have been. It has a "chilling effect" on press freedom, and therefore on truth. It invites (indeed it forces) the press to take a hostile stand against the military and the government. We all know where policies like that ended up in the past: more subversion and dissatisfaction and the isolation of the military and the government. If you support the military and the government, you can't be pleased with that.

It is heartening to note the armed forces has acted swiftly to identify the guilty and improper disciplinary measures. Yet simply cracking down hard on the abusive members of the military, however proper, won't suffice. Sometimes doing this would send the wrong signals: think what the reaction would be on the military at a sensitive matter such as this if you heavily punished (very justifiably) the guilty troopers when at about the same time you were having a tete-a-tete with Dante and praising him. What is needed therefore is both firmness and evenhandedness.

All lawlessness must be treated equally. There needs to be a crackdown on the abuses of both the extreme left and the agents of the law who break it. That means tougher laws against those who commit violent acts of whatever political stripe. That also means forcing the laws. Troops that beat up newsmen or peaceful demonstrators ought to be jailed. Demonstrators who so much as land a punch on any of our troops ought to be arrested and serve time. Let's begin using those principles with the Clark case.

That done, we also need a thorough retraining of our troops. Only iron-disciplined troops commanded by well-trained officers must be used not only in anti-riot forces but in any anti-insurgency campaign or operation. Politically, it is clear that it is better to have our troops exhibit restraint (though we must invest heavily in protective equipment) since that always decisively turns the tide of public opinion for government against the law breakers. It is important for the military to follow through on its first step at enforcing discipline. If the press isn't safe, no one is.

Planned 14 May Power Blackout Cancelled

*HK1205044590 Baguio City Mountain Province
Broadcasting Company in English 0330 GMT
12 May 90*

[Text] The Black Monday energy saving program won't be implemented on May 14. Secretary Efren Cruz of the Presidential Management Staff and chairman of the

Office of the President coordinating panel, upon consultation with the task force on power under the joint government-business sector initiative program, announced that the powerless Monday program for participating government and private offices will not be implemented on Monday, May 14. These offices may therefore use Meralco [Manila Electric Company] power. Therefore, this coming Monday, May 14, will be a normal working day.

However, offices, commercial and residential circuits will be subjected to daily two-hour brownouts. [passage indistinct]

The task force will be undertaking a weekly assessment of power situation to determine implementation of the program in the succeeding Mondays. The task force further recommended that heads of the agencies be allowed to decide whether their employees will report to work or not.

Military Intensifies Self-Reliant Posture

*HK1405064590 Manila BUSINSSS WORLD
in English 14 May 90 p 12*

[By Vittorio O. Hernandez]

[Text] With the possible phaseout of the U.S. military facilities and, consequently, their component foreign military sales/military assistance program (FMS/MAP) through which \$125 million was made available last year for the acquisition of foreign military hardware, the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) has stepped up its Self-Reliant Defense Posture Program (SRDP).

The SRDP is one of the three components of the AFP's [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Defense Forces Capability Development Program, the other two being the FMS/MAP and the CAFGUs (Civilian Armed Forces Geographical Units).

Local Production

Military statistics obtained by BUSINESS WORLD indicated that in 1989, P[pesos]168.707 million worth of military hardware were produced locally, equivalent to 88,136 units/pieces of radio transceivers, mortar fuses, M16 rifles, ammunitions and M79/M203 grenade launchers. These accounted for 48% of the total SDRP target of 184,417 units of military equipment.

In the case of URC 187 radio transceivers, the actual deliveries of 512 units exceeded by 1% the 509-unit target. However, for the URC 773 type, delivery was only 53%, or 522 out of 978 sets, while for mortar fuses, 100% or 15,450 pieces were acquired.

For M16 rifles, 22,612 pieces, or 70% of the 32,520 weapons ordered, were delivered. On the other hand, only 36% (49,040 rounds) of ammunition and M79/M203 grenade launchers out of the 134,960 ordered were finished.

Savings

The reliance of the military on local producers for the manufacture of these firearms and other combat hardware generated savings of P11.961 million for the economy last year through import substitution and local value-added costs, a Department of National Defense report said. Meanwhile, the manufacture of small arms ammunition was done by the Government Arsenal. Last year, the Arsenal produced 23.4 million assorted rounds of ammunition, a 33% rise from 1988's production of 17.6 million rounds. Meanwhile, since the inception of the SRDP, \$41.3 million worth of Philippine-produced military hardware have been sold to various countries, principally neighboring Asian and African nations. In terms of job opportunities generated, the SRDP program benefitted an estimated 1,000 families.

Included under the program was the assembly by the Philippine Aerospace Development Corp. (PADC) of S-211 trainer jets for the Philippine Air Force via a counter trade arrangement with Agusta/Siai Marchetti of Italy.

New Deployment System for Army Reported

HK1105042990 Manila MANILA BULLETIN
in English 11 May 90 p 8

[By Wilma Yamzon]

[Text] The Philippine Army (PA) revealed yesterday a new deployment system for its troops, calling for the recruitment and assignment of combat soldiers right in their regions. Maj. Gen. Guillermo G. Flores, Army chief, said the entire Army command will undergo major "physical changes" in the next few months to put more muscle in the government's fight against communist insurgents.

Flores said the scheme will also lessen the load on the administration of troops in the field and give more attention to tactical maneuvers on the battlefield. Flores said the decentralization of troop deployment is part of his policy of providing more resources for combat troops in the frontline.

The Army chief said he ordered his staff officers to prepare the blue-print for the new recruitment scheme for implementation the soonest possible time. The recruitment of soldiers will be "localized" which means that applicants for enlistment will be selected on a "region-wide basis," he said.

"This would be more practical because the troops would be more knowledgeable of the terrain of their areas of assignment," Flores said. Another advantage of the scheme, he said, is giving the soldier peace of mind when he is out on operations.

"This is the primary problem confronting almost 50 percent of our troops because his mind is on his family. He is torn between his duty as a soldier and his duty to his family," Flores said.

RAM Said Involved in Manila Bank Robberies

HK1105094490 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company
DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 11 May 90

[By Eloi Aquino of Mobile Unit No. 12]

[Text] Metropolitan Police Board operatives are closely investigating the involvement of several Reform the Armed Forces Movement (RAM) soldiers in big-time holdups, particularly in Metro Manila banks. This was announced by a ranking police official after two consecutive bank robberies on Thursday (10 May) and the arrest of seven persons suspected of involvement in these robberies. They are believed to be RAM members who are AWOL.

The preliminary investigations of the Boston bank, Quezon Avenue branch, robbery reveal that the suspects received five million pesos in cash. They also attempted to hold up the armored car of the Far East Bank containing nine million pesos in cash. The robbers are suspected to be military men. The investigations lead to their involvement because of the high-powered firearms used by the suspects, as well as the identical modus operandi. [passage omitted]

RAM's 'Ideological Identity Crisis' Viewed

HK1105110090 Quezon City MALAYA in English
10 May 90 p 4

[Column by Rodolfo E. Dula: "An Identity Crisis"]

[Text] One of the things the President said on "Magtanong sa Pangulo" [Ask the President] Sunday evening was that the RAM [Reform the Armed Forces Movement] is suffering from an "ideological identity crisis." She claimed it had gone the Marxist route, recalling how captured rebel army officer Lt. Col. Marcelino Malajacan had defiantly raised a clenched fist and shouted "rebolusyon" after his presentation to media the other week.

Quite an interesting diagnosis. It is true that since December 1, various key personalities from both the reformist and insurgent camps have hinted at a tactical alliance towards the overthrow of this regime. There has been absolutely no indication as yet, however, that either group is in a hurry to translate that possibility into reality.

Frankly, such an alliance, frightening or beguiling though the prospect be, appears unlikely. Whether Cory Aquino believes it or not, a real war of attrition is going on out there. Too much blood has been and continues to be shed in the battlefield to warrant any real deal between the military and the NPA. [New People's Army] They aren't about to shake hands on who gets to slit whose throat first, which ultimately is what one wants to do to the other most.

In that regard, I guess the problem with this administration is that it thinks all rebels are opportunists like

Kumander [Commander] Dante. Preponderant evidence to the contrary, it continues to believe that luring them back to the fold is merely a matter of coming up with an offer they can't resist, be that a tete-a-tete with the President in some ricemill, an economic fiefdom of their own, or both.

But its problems go even deeper. At bottom, it refuses to admit that there is a fundamental difference between just a rebellion or an insurrection and a full-blown revolution.

Four years into the hustings, with communist domination or infiltration of large swaths of the countryside a given and after six coup attempts, the next more violent than the last, it still cannot appreciate how dramatically the mood of the nation has shifted, let alone how deeply the seeds of radical change—of upheaval, rather than just reform—are now rooted in the fertile soil of popular discontent.

This government persists in clinging on to what it calls the center, though everyone else has long seen that amorphous space for what it really is: a heavily mined no-man's land. What it stubbornly insists is paradise has long become limbo to most of us. To a few it offers cake, while leaving the vast majority starving for bread. It has largely failed to either fulfill its promises or accept its limits.

Perhaps the main reason for such failing is that from the outset, it has arrogantly staked a monopoly on virtue and principle. Agree or be cast out. Surrender or die. It speaks of peace and democracy constantly while eschewing dialogue and damning dissent. It proposes reconciliation but metes out retribution instead. At this late hour, this dispensation has yet to prove that it is keener to keep friends than to make enemies, or that it knows how to tell between the two.

The latter it will never be able to do, for as long as it is far quicker to judge and blame others than to acknowledge its own shortcomings and mistakes. For it could well be that what it perceives to be moles in others' eyes are no more than just so many murky reflections of the beam in its own.

This business of an identity crisis within the RAM, for instance. Rather than idly speculating on the current ideological bent of the members of that organization, perhaps this government should ask itself how, in just four short years, those it once described as idealists, reformists, heroes and saviors have become "ultra-rightists", "mad power grabbers" and "murderers" in its book.

It should explain why it was all right to take up arms against Mr. Marcos and for some very proper gentlemen and ladies to fund that effort then, whereas it is not now, as well as by what authority it decrees such distinction.

It may wish to enlighten them anew on why Joma Sison was freed, Tony Zumel and Satur Ocampo were

embraced, and Kumander Dante and Father Balweg are rewarded, on the one hand, and why those who fight NPAs and Sparrows must be manacled, deprived of visitation rights, confined in isolation, or sent on to Muntinglupa on the other.

Further someone should convince these "misguided" soldiers and their supporters or sympathizers that martial law was necessary and salutary after all; that the dictator was right in concocting the crime of "rebellion complex" but his lackey supreme court wrong in upholding the writ; and that they should welcome the bounty on their mutiny with open arms.

Maybe Gringo and his gang are not even confused, just retarded, simple of mind. Otherwise, how can they not comprehend why it makes sense to call in the Americans' Phantoms and beg for additional material to fight coups, while snubbing their defense chief and hedging on their bases at the same time. Or they are just economically, politically, culturally, and morally naive, which accounts for their inability to countenance the Garchitorena land scam, the Roppongi sell out, the Simba deal, the gold hunt, Junior de Guzman, chop-chops, the casinos and the small town lottery as permanent features of Philippine society.

Once and for all, these malcontents should be made to realize that EDSA [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue] was about justice and freedom, not water or power, and that in opting for the former, we abdicated our right to the latter. Who needs these basics anyway, when, by some yet unexplained miracle or freak of fate, this darkened, droughted country will rise to NIC [newly industrialized country] status before the decade ends?

The hour is late indeed, but I remain hopeful that by grappling anew with these glaring inconsistencies, the Aquino administration can still resolve, not just RAM's identity crisis, but its own, to the relief of an increasingly stupefied nation.

Rice, Corn Inventories Drop in March

*HK1005032590 Manila BUSINESS STAR
in English 10 May 90 p 2*

[“Indicator” column by C.M. Diaz Jr: “Domestic Rice, Corn Inventories Shrank in March”]

[Text] The country's rice and corn stocks shrank from month-ago levels last March when drought conditions, hampering production of the two major cereals for quite sometime already, intensified further with the onset of summer. According to the Bureau of Agricultural Statistics (BAS), the country's rice stock last March stood at 1.314 million metric tons (MT), 3.4% lower than the February, 1990 level of 1.360 million MT. Rice held by households and by the National Food Authority (NFA) during the reference month, respectively at 54% and 15% of the aggregate stock, went down by 10.8% and 3.9%.

It was only the commercial sector which boosted stocks by 13.2% during the period. This is a development which would not sit well with militant farmers and consumers who have always charged rice traders of hoarding the staple for profiteering purposes, especially in times of crisis as these.

That the commercial sector had more rice in its possession at 31% of the aggregate stock than the NFA, which only had half that amount in its depositories during the period, testifies anew to the fact that rice farmers prefer selling their produce to private traders who offer more attractive prices per kilo than the government ever does. The government has already raised its price support for palay [unhusked rice grain] twice over the past two years, precisely to rectify such a situation. It seems, though, that such an effort continue to be of no avail.

On a year-to-year basis, the rice inventory last March was 10.7% higher than the same month last year. This was because household and commercial stocks also rose, by 8.7% and 22.8% respectively. NFA stocks, however, decreased by 2.2%.

For corn, stock inventory as of March this year was 200,400 MT, 14,000 MT or 6.4% below the previous month's 214,000 MT supply level. Despite the 64.4% increase in NFA stocks, the total corn stock still dropped due to the 19.3% and 10.9% inventory declines in both households and commercial sectors, which together comprised 78.1% of aggregate corn stocks.

Against the March 1989 level, this year's corn stock volume was also lower by 18.9%. The drop in inventory levels in the household and commercial sectors, by 21.8% and 36.7%, respectively, offset the 46.8% increase in NFA stocks. This resulted in the over-all decline of the total supply from the year-ago level.

Inventory levels of both grains normally undergo monthly and seasonal fluctuations. But these worsen into downtrends when demand rises and there are deficiencies in output due primarily to such natural occurrences as droughts and typhoons.

The country copes with the above through rice and corn importations as in 1989 when total rice supply, at 7.92 million MT, exceeded 1988 levels by 3.9%. Consumption, however, increased by 5.7%, with per capita intake going up 3.3% from 94.7 kilos to 97.8 kilos. This necessitated the country's importation of 220,000 MT of rice. Rice imports appear more necessary this year because the beginning stock inventory in January was, at 1,470 MT, already 3.2% lower than the stock level of 1,520 MT in 1988.

For corn, increased usage in feed consumption brought about by the expansion of the livestock and poultry industry hiked demand up by 10.6%. Corn supply, however, rose by only 6.6%, inclusive of the 174,000 MT importation for the year. As a result, corn stock inventory at the beginning of 1990, at 138,000 MT, fell 53% short of the previous year's level.

Rice Stock Inventory

	(Thousand MT)		
	Mar 1 1990	Feb 1 1990	Mar 1 1989
Household Stocks	707.6	793.2	650.9
Farm	534.0	593.9	444.9
Non-Farm	142.5	157.7	173.9
Metro Manila	31.1	41.6	32.1
Commercial Stocks	405.6	358.2	330.4
NFA Stocks	200.8	208.9	205.3
Total	1,314.0	1,360.3	1,186.6

Corn Stock Inventory

	(Thousand MT)		
	Mar 1 1990	Feb 1 1990	Mar 1 1989
Household Stocks	100.0	123.9	127.8
Farm	87.0	101.5	105.4
Non-Farm	13.0	22.4	22.4
Metro Manila			
Commercial Stocks	56.5	63.4	89.3
NFA Stocks	43.9	26.7	29.9
Total/1	200.4	214.0	247.0

/1—Excludes stocks held by commercial livestock and poultry producers Sources: NFA, BAS

Thailand

Chatchai Urges Censure Debate Before U.S. Trip

BK1305021890 Bangkok THE NATION in English
13 May 90 p 2

[Text] Prime Minister Chatchai Chunnawan called on the Opposition yesterday to carry out the much talked about no-confidence debate before he starts his official visit to the United States on June 11 so as to boost his bargaining power in talks with US leaders on trade issues.

Gen [General] Chatchai, speaking at the Phlu Ta Luang golf course in Chon Buri's Sattahip district, said his US trip will be marred by the uncertainty facing his administration unless the Opposition censures his Cabinet before June 11. "I'm not in the position to give advice (to the Opposition). But I ask the Opposition to think about the national interest," the prime minister said. "Our bargaining power would be reduced if the other side is not convinced that the government is going to survive the no-confidence vote," he added.

The premier is scheduled to discuss with President Bush and other US leaders greater market access in the US for Thai goods, a review of the US Farm Act which is

affecting the Thai rice exports, as well as restrictive trade measures imposed by the US.

The US in turn is expected to press the Thai side to provide protection for intellectual property for its goods and services in Thailand.

Chatchai said the government is prepared to reply to any query raised by the Opposition on the performance of his administration as a whole or on individual Cabinet members. "The government is also prepared to have the no-confidence debate broadcast live from Parliament if the Opposition so wishes," he said.

The prime minister pointed out that he goes to the United States between June 11-19 to negotiate with US leaders on important issues, including Thailand's export privileges under the generalized system of preference (GSP), intellectual property protection, and narcotics suppression. "I go to the United States to negotiate with US leaders to uphold our national interest," he said. "And I hope the Opposition would take that into consideration".

Earlier this week, opposition leaders said they wanted the no-confidence debate to take place after Chatchai's US trip so as not to disrupt the prime minister's preparation for the visit.

The Opposition, which has yet to lobby for support to file a no-confidence motion in Parliament, plans to take to task the entire Cabinet for alleged corruption and incompetence in dealing with major problems facing the country, such as the rising prices of consumer goods.

Chatchai, Solomon Meet; Discuss Upcoming Visit

BK1405072990 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 14 May 90

[Text] Suwit Yotmani, spokesman attached to the Prime Minister's Office, announced that Assistant U.S. Secretary of State Richard Solomon called on Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunnawan at 1000 today [14 May] at Government House. They discussed the planned visit of the Thai prime minister to the United States. During the visit, there will be talks on trade, intellectual property, the petrochemical industry, and narcotics problems. The cigarette issue may not be discussed as it is minor.

The prime minister informed the U.S. visitor that in connection with narcotics suppression, Thailand has a shortage of vehicles, especially aircraft. Solomon confirmed that the United States is considering the matter in order to help Thailand's narcotics suppression become more effective.

During the meeting, the U.S. visitor also asked Chatchai about the recent meeting between the Thai prime minister and the visiting Japanese foreign minister, since there have been reports that Thailand and Japan will hold a joint military exercise. Chatchai confirmed that during the meeting with the Japanese minister there was no talk of any sort about such a joint military exercise.

He said they discussed only joint training in the electronics field, in which Japan has expertise.

U.S. Told Thai-Burmese Drug War 'Uphill Task'

BK1405012790 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 May 90 p 2

[By Subin Khuankaeo]

[Text] Chiang Mai—Thai senior officials have asked the US Government to be patient and take into account constraints facing Thailand and Burma in their efforts to stamp out narcotics. In an apparent response to tacit US pressure for action on narcotics suppression, National Security Council Chief Suwit Sutthanukun and third Army Region Commander Lt-Gen [lieutenant general] Siri Thiwapan said that Thai-Burmese cooperation on narcotics suppression still has a long-way to go before concrete results can be expected.

"The Thai-Burmese cooperation on narcotics control began to take shape a few years ago and is likely to be progressing in the future. "It is too early to expect any result at this stage. We must do it gradually and give Burma a chance," said Mr Suwit.

In the same vein, Lt-Gen Siri said the success of Thai narcotics suppression is the fruit of tremendous efforts over a long time. "It has been an uphill task, and will be a time-consuming process before we can bring opium production down to the current estimate of 50 tons a year (in Thailand)," said Lt-Gen Siri. And achievements so far are because Thailand is well-equipped and authorities have access to "every square inch of the soil," he said.

Lt-Gen Siri put the latest estimate for opium production in Burma at 3,000 tons this year. Compared to Thailand, Burma is not as well-equipped with manpower and financial resource and Rangoon cannot exert total control over opium-production areas. Both Lt-Gen Siri and Mr Suwit agreed the US should perceive Burma in this light.

Asked to comment on reports of alleged involvement of members of the ruling Burmese regime in the drug trade, Lt-Gen Siri said: "I don't think they are interested in opium or the drug trade. If they do it, why do they bother selling fish and logs?" He insisted the drug problem in the golden Triangle, if allowed to continue unchecked, will harm Thailand's image.

The general said Burma is interested in learning Thai experience of using development and crop substitution schemes to discourage opium growing. The Thai experiences were raised with the military regime in Rangoon by Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut during his several trips to Burma as the then army chief.

"Our friends in the world should take into consideration the constraints. We are developing countries and we solve problems our way. One cannot simply apply the Western yardstick around here," said Mr Suwit.

Asked if the US has applied pressure on Thailand, as a friend of Burma, to step up action following drug kingpin Khun Sa's indictment, the NSC chief said: "Not exactly that. They cannot pressure us, but the news came out in that direction.

"We would like them to understand that while pushing for suppression, they should consider reducing their domestic demands for drugs as well." Mr Suwit said he has suggested to his American friends that since the US invested multi-billions of dollars in space technology, why did it not set aside a budget to develop some kind of medicine that will kill the desire for drugs—with one shot.

Early this month, Gen Chawalit made a secret trip to Chiang Mai reportedly to meet President George Bush's advisor, Gen Alexander Haig, and a senior official of the US Drug Enforcement Agency at the US Consulate. Asked why in Chiang Mai, he said "the discussion took place where the problem lies."

It was during Gen Haig's tenure in the White House that then Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon ordered the "Operation Hin Taek" to hit at Khun Sa's stronghold at Ban Hin Taek in late 1982.

Minister Urges West Not To Isolate Burma

BK1305025590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
13 May 90 pp 1, 3

[By Subin Khuankaeo and Suphaphon Kanwirayothin]

[Text] Chiang Mai—In an apparent effort to deflect a possible US boycott of Thai imports made from raw materials from Burma, Deputy Foreign Minister Praphat Limpaphan yesterday sought to justify Thailand's policy of cordial relations with the Rangoon government. He also called upon Western countries not to isolate Burma through the imposition of political or economic sanctions, but to encourage the country to pursue democracy by integrating the nation into the world community.

"It is deeply regrettable that many countries are trying to corner Burma back to the jungle again. Burma has not known democracy for 27 years and how can democratisation take place overnight? We must give them a chance to move towards that goal gradually," Mr Praphat told a seminar on Thai-Burmese relations at Chiang Mai University. Thailand is determined to see Burma gradually develop democracy, he said.

Mr Praphat pleaded for the Western world to understand that in order to encourage democratic developments in Burma, the country must be brought into global relations, so that "it will learn to act like other members of the community. The Oriental and Western thinking may differ here, and this is rather difficult to explain. But all this does not mean we do not take human rights into consideration," said the Deputy Foreign Minister.

Thailand will take on the task of convincing the world community to realise that democratisation will take place by integrating, not isolating, Burma from the international community, he said.

"We are also trying to explain to the United States along that line of thinking on the issue of banning Burmese products," he said. The US Senate recently endorsed a bill banning products from Thailand which were produced with raw materials from Burma.

On Thai-Burmese relations, Mr Praphat said bilateral ties have improved considerably in the past few years, when Thailand has allayed the Burmese fear it supported ethnic minorities waging war against Rangoon.

"The Thai military has played a significant role in making Burma more confident in Thailand," he said. The fact that Burma decided to hold general elections on May 27 "displayed goodwill," and he hoped the polls will proceed in accordance with that goodwill.

Speaking at the same forum, National Security Council (NSC) chief Suwit Suthanukun said Thailand wants to have Burma as a "good and stable neighbour to expand political, economic and social cooperation as well as to boost border security." While enhancing bilateral relations in general, Thailand would also aim to persuade Burma to join ASEAN activities for, in the era of closer global links, one cannot stand alone in the world, he said.

On security matters, the NSC secretary-general predicted Burma will step up operations to suppress ethnic insurgency along the border and, as a result, Thailand will have to face another influx of displaced persons who flee to Thailand to escape fighting.

"We will have more displaced Burmese citizens here, more than what we already have, which I believe is more than the Interior Ministry estimate of 92,000." The NSC is considering measures to push back those displaced people, including those who have been in Thailand for a long time and workers in border provinces of Thailand who adversely affect the local job market.

However, Mr Suwit predicted Burma now bears in mind it should not encroach on Thai territory, quoting Army Chief Gen [General] Suchinda Khraprayun's words that if Burma intrudes into Thailand one kilometre, Thai forces will cross into Burma one kilometre in return.

The NSC chief said he believes the present Burmese regime will manage to achieve stability after the polls, when "people in the same power sphere will still be in power."

Also addressing the seminar, Third Army Region Commander Lt-Gen [Lieutenant General] Siri Thiwapan predicted a settlement of the conflict between Rangoon and ethnic minorities is possible soon. "I believe that changes will definitely take place on this issue as ethnic minorities realise they can hardly win after decades of struggle...negotiations will take place," he said. "But like

estranged husband and wife, they may be a bit embarrassed having been disunited for so long," he said.

In acting as peace mediator between Rangoon and the minorities, Thailand must be very careful, otherwise its action could be construed as interference in Burma's domestic affairs, he said.

Government Urged To End 'Vague' Burma Policy

*BK1205055190 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
12 May 90 p 9*

[Text] The All Burma Students Democratic Front (ABSDF) urged Thailand to sever economic relations and cease all kinds of support for the Rangoon military regime. In an open letter addressed to a seminar on Thai-Burmese relations held at Chiang Mai University today, the students' organisation also asked Thailand, which they say can play a major role for the peaceful settlement of the conflict in Burma, to serve as peace mediator like what the country does for the Cambodian issue.

Thailand should prohibit the Burmese Army from using its soil as a base for rear attacks against ethnic and student camps, and grant temporary sanctuary to students who flee the military attacks. Besides, the students asked Thailand to allow the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other relief organisations to assist ethnic people and students who fled the Burmese military into Thailand. They also urged the Thai Government to "stop all support, such as food supplies," to Burmese forces along the border.

"We see that Thailand can play a major role for the peaceful settlement of the conflict in Burma. Therefore we feel it is crucial that Thailand express clearly what its policy towards Burma is, instead of continuing a vague 'support for every side' policy, which can only create misunderstanding between Thailand and the Burmese people, more confusion and more tension," the letter said.

In addition to the call for a clear Thai policy, the students said Thailand can exert a significant role by pressuring the Saw Maung regime to release political prisoners and guarantee free participation of all opposition parties in the upcoming elections. The students also called on Thailand to facilitate peace talks for Burma, such as what has been done in the case of Cambodia.

The students reiterated their position that the May 27 polls cannot be free and fair unless the civil war issue is solved.

The process leading to free and fair elections in Burma should involve an immediate ceasefire of all forces, a national convention attended by all democratic forces and minority groups, the formation of an interim government by this convention and a new constitution

which will guarantee the equality of all nationalities and the basic democratic rights and human rights of all people in Burma, they said.

Chawalit Aides in Beijing for Sihanouk Talks

*BK1205053390 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
12 May 90 p 8*

[Text] Representatives of Defence Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut have flown to Beijing to speak to Cambodia's exiled Prince Norodom Sihanouk and salvage the Prime Minister's effort to resolve the civil war in Cambodia.

Sihanouk stepped down on Monday [7 May] as leader of the Cambodian guerrilla coalition fighting the Vietnamese-backed government and said he would not attend peace talks in Tokyo next month with Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen. PM's [Prime Minister's] adviser Kraissak Chunhawan said yesterday the representatives went to Beijing, where Sihanouk has a villa, on Thursday to persuade the former monarch to change his mind and meet Hun Sen.

Despite his alliance with the notorious Khmer Rouge and his frequent changes of mood, Sihanouk is seen by Western and Asian governments as a national symbol who can unite Cambodia.

Thai officials had expressed disappointment at his latest move but Kraissak and Gen [General] Chawalit were both confident he would agree to go to Tokyo. "We are getting close to achieving something historic," Kraissak told REUTERS.

Gen Chawalit, who played a key role in arranging the Tokyo meeting, said on television on Thursday night: "We will respect any decision made by the Prince but I am confident he will listen to us."

Editorial on Nigerian Vice Admiral's Statements

*BK1105021590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
11 May 90 p 4*

[Editorial: "Needing a 'Fix' and Fixing a Need"]

[Text] Hardly a week has gone by this year without a drug case surfacing at Don Muang Airport. And very noticeably in most of the cases, many of the suspected traffickers are Nigerians.

Official statistics show that more than 100 Nigerians or holders of Nigerian passports were arrested in the past five months while attempting to smuggle heroin out of the country. It is not known how many of them managed to slip through the police dragnet and the detection of watchful customs officials at the airport.

Obviously, many of the arrested suspects are merely "small fry" lured by irresistible offers by the real traffickers to spend a few days or a week on an all-expenses paid trip to Thailand and to smuggle out heroin on their way back home. Yet their short-sighted amateurish

adventurism has, unfortunately, tarnished the image of their country and their people overseas.

Presumably because of the political instability and lax customs surveillance, Thai and international anti-narcotics agents believe that Nigeria has recently become the world's important transit point of narcotics trafficking.

Given the high incidence of drug busts involving Nigerian nationals, Thai police have proposed an end to visa-free entry to Nigerians as a means to screen out would-be traffickers. The Thai Embassy in Lagos also reportedly launched a campaign to warn Nigerians of the risks they face if they are caught in Thailand for narcotics trafficking. The measures are, by all means, justifiable and do not, in any way, constitute racial discrimination against or represent "molestation" of innocent Nigerians as charged by Nigeria's No. 2 strongman Vice Admiral Augustus Aikhomu.

The warning by Vice Admiral Aikhomu that Nigeria would reciprocate for ill treatment of its citizens abroad, including Thailand, seemingly smacks of being emotionally nationalistic and an overreaction.

Threatened retaliation will not, in any way, refute the very fact that a large number of Nigerians are held on drugs charges in Thailand and other Asian countries. Nor will it help stem narcotics trafficking which has become a global problem.

International cooperation such as the kind Nigeria entered into with Thailand, the United States, Great Britain and Ghana for the purpose of an exchange of information on narcotics should be the right course of action to help combat global narcotics trafficking and, more importantly, to restore Nigeria's tainted image in the international community.

Any honest Nigerian who wishes to visit Thailand to appreciate its natural beauty and cultural heritage should not feel offended by the precautions taken by Thai authorities. Like other bona fide tourists, they are welcome. Thailand and Nigeria have enjoyed mutually good relations since 1962. Such a relationship should not be allowed to be strained by the criminal acts of traffickers.

1989 Trade Deficit Rise With ASEAN Reported

*BK1305042990 Bangkok Domestic Service in English
0000 GMT 13 May 90*

[Text] Thailand's trade deficit with its fellow members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations increased by 50 percent to 22,798 million baht last year over 1988.

The Business Economics Department said Thailand's total trade value with fellow ASEAN countries last year amounted to more than 140,000 million baht, representing an increase by 30 percent. During the period, exports to ASEAN rose 26 percent to almost 60,000 million baht while imports increased by 32 percent to

about 82,000 million baht. The department said Thailand incurred the highest trade deficit with Singapore because of the importing of fuel oil, computer parts, electrical appliances, and miscellaneous items.

Of all the ASEAN members, the Philippines is the only country in the group with which Thailand registered a trade surplus.

Journalists Hold Rally, Demand End of Decree 42

*BK1405014390 Bangkok THE NATION in English
14 May 90 p 1*

[By Sutichai Yoon]

[Excerpt] What if they staged the largest gathering of the country's journalists in history—and everybody came? They all did yesterday—and the chorus was deafening.

"I can't believe my eyes. Almost all leading journalists around the country, who are not usually known for their inclination to reach a consensus on any controversial issue, are actually here today and speaking with one, thundering voice," exclaimed a veteran journalist, just as the first-ever "Assembly of Journalists of Thailand" got underway at around noon.

About 300 members of the national press joined the two-hour deliberations and adopted a five-point joint communique, calling for the immediate abrogation of the notorious Decree 42, Thailand's ultimate version of a pressgagging law.

Presidents of the country's eight press associations were present—also a rare display of unity over the issue.

"This time, there is no more fooling around. The campaign will not ease off until our demands are met. They government may think it could play around with one promise after another about abolishing the decree without really having to actually live up to the pledge. We journalists have covered enough political stories to realize that we could fall victim to the same old game. But we aren't going to be trapped again," Phaithun Sunthon, editor of the country's largest-circulation daily, THAI RAT, declared.

The provincial press was present in full force as well. "We are all together on this. I just sent out letters to all the editors and they reacted immediately. We know this time, it's for real. Decree 42, which has been hanging like a guillotine over our heads, must go—and soon," Phaithun said.

The journalists want the government to introduce a new, three-paragraph bill in the current House session to bury the decree once and for all, without dilly-dallying through the drafting of a new press bill.

"Prime Minister Chatchai (Chunhawan) should do this before he visits the United States next month because he will certainly be asked by the American Press about the continued existence of such a repressive antipress law

now that the world has read and heard about the Thai journalists' move," another senior journalist, Somchet Watthanathon, told the conference.

The joint communique was read out loud by a senior editor, Manit Suksumchit, as all the editors and press association presidents stood in line on the stage behind a huge banner: "Abolish Decree 42, Return Freedom of Information to the People."

The journalists' demands were stated in no-nonsense, concise language: Abrogate Decree 42, unconditionally and without further delay; the Interior Ministry's move to draw up new press laws runs blatantly against the March 20 Cabinet decision which clearly stipulated that journalists must be consulted on the drafting of a new press bill—if one was considered necessary at all, that is. [passage omitted]

Report on Military's 'Golden Sky Formula'

*BK1305041790 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
13 May 90 p 8*

[From the "Inprint" column: "Golden Sky Formula for Generals"]

[Text] LAK THAI weekly magazine reported on moves by a group of "retired and due to retire" military men who want the opportunity to join the Government in the future. They call this movement the "Golden Sky Formula" or the "5 plus 1 = 10", or the "10 from 45". The formula puzzled many people at first, but the meaning is now known to refer to graduates of the pre-military cadet Class 5 and the Chunlachomklao cadet Class 1 who want to get a quota of 10 of the 45 Cabinet seats.

The main aim is to pave the way for members of the military who want to enter politics or, for those who have already been elected, to have 10 Cabinet posts available to them as guarantee of a say in the future government. According to LAK THAI, this formula is reportedly the brainchild of top level military men who want retired military men to enter politics according to the democratic system, but with some guaranteed power.

As for graduates of the pre-military Class 5 and graduates of the Chunlachomklao Class 1, many are already part of the political scene. The Golden Sky Formula will make it almost certain that they can become Cabinet minister in the 10-seat quota if they happen to win a seat in a future election.

There are many former soldiers from Class 5 now in politics. According to the Golden Sky Formula list, they are: Gen Athit Kamlang-ek, leader of Puangchon Chao Thai Party; Gen Thianchai Sirisamphan, Deputy Prime Minister and Leader of Ratsadon Party; Gen Mana Rattanakoset, Education Minister and secretary-general of the Ratsadon Party; Gen Han Linanon, adviser to Chat Thai Party and former minister of agriculture and cooperatives; and Gen Wanchai Chitchamnong, secretary to the Prime Minister.

Former military men from Class 1 are Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister; Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong, Commander of the Supreme Command who will reach retirement age in October next year; Gen Charuai Wongsayan, secretary to the Defence Minister; Gen Panya Singsakda, former Secretary to the Prime Minister; and Gen Sanan Sawetserani, former secretary to the Defence Minister. Gen Sanan is a military cadet of "class-2", but has close association with military cadets of Class 1 since the time he was a military cadet.

In the next election the Golden Sky proponents are eyeing Samut Songkhram Province for Gen Wanchai Chitchamnong, secretary to the Prime Minister. Gen Wanchai is from Class 5.

LAK THAI weekly concluded by reporting that it is almost certain that Gen Panya Singsakda will run in Nakhon Ratchasima, while Gen Sanan Sawetserani, former secretary to Defence Minister, will run in Nan Province.

Vietnam

Radio Views Rumors Regarding American MIA's

*BK1405040290 Hanoi International Service in English
1000 GMT 13 May 90*

[Excerpt from the "Sunday Show" on 13 May]

[Text] The Vietnamese people have a deep hatred for the aggressors and are determined to defend their national independence, but have always given humanitarian treatment to the captured. The release of all captured Americans, the repatriation of all Americans remaining in Vietnam after the completion of the war, the search for information about Americans missing in the Vietnam war, and the return of remains recovered to the U.S. side are three aspects of the humanitarian policy of the Vietnamese Government.

From March 1974 to early 1990, Vietnam handed over the U.S. side on 31 occasions the remains of more than 400 Americans missing in action during the Vietnam war. The special envoy of the American president, General John Vessey, on many occasions expressed the great appreciation of the American Government for Vietnam's unilateral efforts in searching for and returning the remains of American GI's.

In 1972, the then Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Van Dong signed a decree to set up the office in charge of seeking information about personnel missing in the Vietnam war. Only this office is entitled to handle the missing in action issue. There were reports about Vietnamese countrymen selling remains of American servicemen. This is illegal, running counter to the policy of the Vietnamese Government. But this action would not be possible if there had not been an encouragement for them to do so. According to the newspaper LIBERATED SAIGON [SAIGON GIAI PHONG] issued in Ho Chi

Minh City, some foreigners have bought four remains. We do hope that they will stop this practice and let the two offices of Vietnam and the United States do the job.

Some years ago, there were allegations that there were still American prisoners of war in captivity in Vietnam. Vietnam denied this fabrication. Not until 7 November 1989 at a press briefing at the White House did U.S. President George Bush welcome the new openness of Vietnam and affirmed there was no information about Americans still alive in Vietnam.

We would like the missing in action issue to be completely solved soon, as this will help alleviate the suffering of American families whose loved ones were lost in the war. However, this is a time-consuming and demanding job and, so far, it has been unilaterally carried out by Vietnam, a country which suffered the great losses in the war and now is rebuilding itself.

End to U.S. Exercises 'Against Cuba' Demanded

*BK1205083890 Hanoi VNA in English 0734 GMT
12 May 90*

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 12—The daily NHAN DAN today strongly demands that Washington put an immediate end to its provocative military exercises against Cuba.

In a commentary today, the paper describes Washington's ballyhoo over the so-called "Cuba's violations of human rights" as an insolent slander and a futile effort to bolster up a handful of Cuban reactionaries, "such a move has proved the fact that the United States remains the most brazen interventionist and aggressor who is grossly trampling upon human rights, especially nations's right to self-determination," the paper says.

NHAN DAN praises the high determination of the Cuban party and people to defend their national independence and freedom. It quotes President Fidel Castro as saying that "Cuba will become the second Vietnam if the United States rashly invades Cuba."

"The Vietnamese people believe that the Cuban people united around the Communist Party of Cuba led by General Secretary Fidel Castro will thwart all schemes and moves of intervention by the enemy, firmly defending the first island of freedom in America," the paper says.

Major Crackdown on Dissidents Behind Arrests

*BK1405011590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
14 May 90 p 6*

[By Alan Dawson]

[Text] A major crackdown on southern-based dissidents is behind the recent arrests of a number of foreigners by security agents on technical charges, a recent traveller to Vietnam said last night. The security men are spreading a major net over suspected anti-Hanoi activity. They

told the foreigners in days of non-stop interrogation that they expected "trouble" on the April 30 anniversary of the capture of Saigon, and the May 19 birthday celebration of Ho Chi Minh.

Three people from three different countries are known to have been detained in the wide-spread crackdown by the KGB-trained security agency. The best-known of those arrested is American Michael Morrow, a former newsman who is a consultant to businessmen examining investment opportunities in Vietnam. Another, now safe in Thailand, described five days in captivity at the Ho Chi Minh City security headquarters.

Interrogators forbade any outside contact, including with foreign embassies, during the arrest period. The traveller said there was no sign of any other foreigners in the security prison. But five days of questioning settled quickly into a routine during which interrogators and an English interpreter demanded:

- Names of all southern Vietnamese with whom the foreigner had contact;
- Names and background of all foreigners resident in Thailand who had visited Vietnam; and
- Details of any acquaintances who had lived in Vietnam prior to the 1975 fall of Saigon, particularly journalists.

The agents seemed particularly interested in the origins and working of Dispatch News Agency, an independent features service co-founded by Mr Morrow in the late 1960s. Obviously, said the traveller, they were gathering information on Mr Morrow.

The reported crackdown on southern dissidents, if confirmed, would explain the sudden arrests of the foreigners, and recent reluctance by Vietnamese authorities to grant visas to foreign newsmen and film teams. The origin of orders for the crackdown remained unknown.

Nguyen Co Thach Visits FRG, Meets Genscher

*BK1405102890 Hanoi International Service in English
1000 GMT 14 May 90*

[Text] Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach hailed the FRG and other countries in the EEC's (?preparation) not to support the so-called Coalition of Democratic Cambodia at the coming session of the UN General Assembly.

Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach was speaking during his visit to the FRG from 9 to 14 May. During his stay there, Mr. Nguyen Co Thach had talks with his counterpart, Genscher, on the strengthening of friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries. They also discussed international and regional issues of mutual concern. Mr. Nguyen Co Thach reaffirmed Vietnam's stance to respect the German people's self-determination and the unification of Germany in the framework of European security. For his part, Minister Genscher expressed the FRG Government's and people's desire to

strengthen relations and cooperation with Vietnam, thus contributing to the current renovation and economic development in Vietnam. He also hoped to contribute to the settlement of the Cambodian issue on the basis of respecting the Cambodian people's right for self-determination and nonresurgence of the genocidal regime in Cambodia.

An agreement on cultural cooperation between the two countries was signed during the visit. They also discussed an agreement on the guarantee and encouragement of investment between the two countries and agreed that this agreement should be signed in the near future.

Soviet Envoy Inspects Ho Chi Minh Museum Site

*BK1205084990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1430 GMT 3 May 90*

[Text] Minister of Building Ngo Xuan Loc and Soviet Ambassador to Vietnam Kachin inspected the pace of construction of the Ho Chi Minh Museum in Hanoi this afternoon, 3 May. The inspection team carefully checked all the details of the museum building project and the pace and quality of its construction work. They talked directly to various Vietnamese and Soviet cadres and engineers at the construction site and resolved on the spot those problems arising during the course of construction in order to ensure the completion of the Ho Chi Minh Museum building project on schedule and with high quality.

Basically the construction of the museum has now been completed. Soviet experts and Vietnamese cadres and workers are putting finishing touches on the museum, such as doing the interior decoration, putting things in place, and arranging them for display. According to the schedule, some articles will be put on display at the last minute prior to the inauguration of the museum. Therefore, Vietnamese and Soviet workers at the construction site are trying their best to complete their assigned jobs while ensuring good maintenance for those articles on display at the Ho Chi Minh Museum.

Vo Chi Cong Visits Ho Chi Minh's Native Home

*BK1405072190 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 13 May 90*

[Text] On behalf of the party and the state, Comrade Vo Chi Cong, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of State, recently called on the party organization and people of Nghe Tinh, the native place of President Ho Chi Minh.

Upon his arrival in Nghe Tinh, Chairman Vo Chi Cong went to the Kim Lien historical site, the native place of respected and beloved Uncle Ho. He visited the thatched-roofed three-room house of Uncle Ho's mother at Hoang Tru Hamlet where our uncle was born and spent the first five years of his life and also also the first place he

returned to upon his repatriation after a 50-year exile. Chairman Vo Chi Cong was deeply moved upon viewing the simple artifacts displayed in the simple house where a national hero was born. He also visited the house of scholar Nguyen Sinh Sac, Uncle Ho's father, at Sen Village where our uncle resided from 1901-1906 and where he often heard patriotic scholars such as Phan Boi Chau, Vuong Thuc Qui, and Dang Thai Than discuss ways to save the people and the country.

Chairman Vo Chi Cong urged the party organization and people of Kim Lien Village and Nghe Tinh Province in general to carefully maintain the priceless artifacts at the historical site. The Kim Lien historical site, he said, represents not only the pride of the party organization and people of Nghe Tinh, but it also reflects the pride of the Vietnamese nation in President Ho Chi Minh and the admiration held for him by friends throughout the world.

Chairman Vo Chi Cong also visited Comrade Le Hong Phong's memorial house, the monument for fallen heroes of the 12 September 1930 Nghe Tinh Soviet movement, and the memorial house for Comrade Tran Phu, the first general secretary of the Indochinese Communist Party.

On behalf of the CPV and the state, Chairman Vo Chi Cong heartily commended the armed forces and people of Nghe Tinh for having overcome countless difficulties and trials caused by natural calamities and having scored achievements in various fields. He also commended them for having firmly maintained production and stabilized the people's life. In the coming period, he said, the province must actively effect comprehensive renovation, broaden democracy within the party as well as in society, develop the tradition of unity, and strengthen the relationship between the party and the people in an effort to build Nghe Tinh into a model province. As an immediate step, he continued, the province should focus on stepping up production and stabilizing the people's life to ensure that food, clothing, education, and medical services are available for everyone—a realistic way to mark Uncle Ho's birth centenary.

During his stay in Nghe Tinh, Chairman Vo Chi Cong called on and talked to cadres and soldiers of the 4th Military Region Command. He also visited the Ben Thuy bridge construction site, a major state project where cadres and workers have overcome many difficulties to finish laying the last span of the bridge in time for the celebration of President Ho Chi Minh's birth centenary. Chairman Vo Chi Cong spent some time meeting with members of the provincial people's council and leading comrades of the various local departments, sectors, and armed forces. He also held working sessions with the standing bodies of the provincial party and people's committees.

Dao Duy Tung Addresses Ho Chi Minh Symposium

*BK1105081590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1430 GMT 10 May 90*

[“Excerpt” from speech of Dao Duy Tung, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, at the inaugural session of an international symposium in Hanoi on 10 May under the theme “Ho Chi Minh—Staunch Fighter of the National Liberation and International Communists and Workers Movements”—read by announcer]

[Text] Dear comrades: Countless nice words have been used by our people and the world people to describe Uncle Ho. Many valuable research projects on his life and achievements have been made. In my opinion, attempts to shed light on the stature, scope, and profoundness of the valuable legacies that Uncle Ho has left for us involve monumental work and require a lot of time and the joint efforts of many people and generations. Even with the theme we have chosen for our symposium this time, we will only be able to deal with a limited number of issues, including the issue of shedding more light on the ideological value, moral virtues, and lifestyle of President Ho Chi Minh, a great national hero and a staunch fighter of the national liberation and international communists and workers movements.

Before our comrades read their reports, which surely will contain rich and diversified ideas, please allow me to express my opinions about the ideological value, moral virtues, and lifestyle of President Ho Chi Minh as follows:

First, as far as I know, the ideological value that Uncle Ho has left for us lies in the fact that he has devoted his whole revolutionary life both at home and abroad to serving the people and the nation and to promoting the cause of national liberation and efforts to abolish the exploitation of man by man. This was manifested very clearly by Uncle Ho when he said: My only earnest desire is to try by all means to secure independence for our country and freedom for our people, and to make sure that our compatriots have enough food, decent clothes, and good educational opportunities. If a country restores independence but the people of that country are deprived of a happy life and freedom, independence is void of meaning.

Uncle Ho's desire has been shared not only by the Vietnamese people but by many other peoples as well. This desire constitutes an unswerving ideal and goal that Uncle Ho has set forth for the whole course of his struggle. His ideal and goal were not formed by accident but by concrete historical conditions, family traditions, national traditions, and the actual situations at home and abroad that he had gone through during the whole process of his journey from patriotism to Marxism-Leninism. The important thing here is that he has instilled this dream in the people and has guided them in making it come true. It is very important to shed light on the path chosen by Uncle Ho and on his goal and ideal as

well as their scientific bases, particularly in the current situation where socialist countries are facing a serious crisis, imperialism is fiercely attacking socialism, and skeptics who have given up the chosen path have emerged.

Second, Uncle Ho's greatest ideological value lies in the fact that through difficult attempts, he has succeeded in finding a way to materialize his ideal and goal by closely combining national independence with socialism, which we later referred to as the path of holding aloft the two banners of national independence and socialism. Through this path, he has satisfactorily resolved the issues involving national and class interests, national and international problems, and national independence and socialist ideals. He has also satisfactorily combined national strength with the strength of the era as well as national duties with internationalist duties. The path of holding aloft the two banners has served as a red string linking together the whole process of the development of the Vietnamese revolution in the past, at present, and in the future.

To clarify thoroughly our uncle's ideology and combine the two banners, I think we must devote more effort to studying the various issues ranging from patriotism and Uncle Ho's coming to Leninism to the idea that nothing is more precious than independence and freedom, the relationship between revolution in colonies and proletarian revolution in capitalist countries, the relationship between the national democratic revolution and the socialist revolution, and so on.

Third, when speaking of ideological value and the value of theoretical thinking of President Ho Chi Minh, we cannot help but mention the great creativity of our Uncle Ho and party in terms of revolutionary method, that is the integrated revolutionary method. With such a method, our party succeeded in sufficiently stirring up all the needed potentials and forces to defeat the enemy. It was the strength of political violence of the masses and military violence, the strength of the three-pronged attack and of three types of troops, the strength of traditions, the modern strength, the national strength, and the strength of the era. The revolutionary method of violence was creatively applied to the conditions of our country and clearly manifested in Uncle Ho's directive on establishing the liberation force's propaganda unit, in the policy of partial upheavals and the foundation of revolutionary bases. Until the anti-U.S. resistance struggle, this revolutionary method developed to a high peak.

This revolutionary method was not only valuable in war but was also suitable for the conditions of socialist construction. When our party set forth the policy of staging three revolutions and now that the platform editorial group has proposed staging the socialist revolution in three domains of production relations, production forces, and superstructures, this integrated revolutionary method was also used under the new conditions. This was done even though we have now applied the

multisectorial economic policy and advocated the line of expanding cooperation, joint venture, and alliance, and others in order to exploit all potential for the development of production.

Fourth, Uncle Ho's ideological value is manifested very clearly in his ingenious strategic and tactical leadership. The scope of strategic leadership over the course of revolution in our country involved many issues such as handling the relationship between the anti-imperialist and anti-feudalist tasks in the national democratic revolution; the relationship between the two strategic tasks—the socialist revolution in the North and the national democratic revolution in the South—the issues of fundamental and immediate targets; the questions of creating and seizing opportunities; the problems of taking advantage of contradictions within the enemy ranks; and the procedures for winning victories step by step and for advancing toward total victory. The exercise of strategic leadership to correctly deal with these issues might be said to be very difficult and complex.

More than anywhere else, this required political sensitivity, intelligence, creativity, experience, and ability to assess the situation accurately and to decide. Uncle Ho was a teacher in the arts of strategic and tactical leadership. At the party Central Committee's eighth plenum in 1940 under Uncle Ho's chairmanship, the major decisions made on the adjustment of strategy, the lines of creating and seizing opportunities to victoriously stage the 1945 August uprising, the 6 March preliminary agreement, and others were concrete proofs of the ingenious strategic leadership of Uncle Ho. Our Uncle Ho, as many of the party leaders have remarked, was really a man of historic decisions at the various historical turning points.

Fifth, our Uncle Ho was not only an ideologue and a talented strategist but also a great organizer. Lenin said: Give me an organization, I will change the entire country of Russia. We must organize, organize and organize. Our Uncle Ho spent his lifetime performing organizational tasks. During his lifetime of activities either abroad or in the country, Uncle Ho was always working to found and train our party. He established the united national front, the people's armed forces, and the people's administration. His ideological value could also be said to be his theoretical viewpoints on the very special organizational domain. This value was manifested by his viewpoints, lines, and measures to build revolutionary organizations and to operationally control the organization and implementation of revolutionary tasks.

We can cite some examples of his many arguments on party development including the encompassing argument serving as a basis for the building of our party, a party that follows Marxism-Leninism in line with the revolutionary realities in our country. There is also the example of the argument that our party was a product from the combination of Marxism-Leninism with the workers' movement and the patriotic movement. The standpoint that the Army was born of the people and

fights for the people and the statement that none of our people can forget that the Army is faithful to the country and the people, can fulfill all tasks, overcome all difficulties and defeat all enemies, and so forth constitute the guiding thought to successfully build the heroic armed forces of our people and Uncle Ho's soldiers.

Such viewpoints that the people are the masters of the country—which was raised by our Uncle very early—that the administration from grass roots to central levels must be elected by the people and must serve the people, that cadres of the state are the people's servants and not revolutionary fathers, and so forth are our people's guidelines for building the state. The statement—solidarity, solidarity, and great solidarity; success, success and great success—constitutes a great thought that guides the building of our entire people's very firm and strong solidarity bloc and the establishment of the united national front—a decisive factor in the victories of the Vietnamese revolution. The encompassing idea here is that our Uncle Ho saw the people as a force to decide the victory of the revolution. Our uncle's statement that the country must use the people as a base, has manifested his thought very clearly.

Sixth, what has made Ho Chi Minh a great man lies not only in his creative theoretical thinking, ingenious strategic and tactical decisions, and persistent and very effective organizational activities, but also in his ethical qualities and revolutionary behavior. Our Uncle Ho symbolizes the qualities of a new man and communist humanism. Comrade Vo Nguyen Giap once observed: Although President Ho's patriotism was very warm, his internationalistic spirit was very bright and loyal. Even though he was very revolutionary, he remained very kind. His human compassion was immense. He was a profound yet modest scholar. He was very great yet very popular. His sight was broad and far-reaching yet practical and realistic. His words always matched his deeds. His theory matched practice. His strategic principles were firmly maintained but very flexible tactically. He looked straight at, correctly assessed, and clearly stated the truth.

These are a few traits of Ho Chi Minh's behavior. His whole life might be said to have reflected lofty humanitarianism—communist humanism. With these ideological values, our Uncle Ho not only creatively applied Marxism-Leninism to the conditions in Vietnam but also contributed to developing it. These values together with his whole lifetime of activities in our country as well as in the world have created the Ho Chi Minh person, the great national hero and a stalwart combatant of the national liberation movement and the international communist and workers' movement.

Nguyen Van Linh Addresses Military Conference

*BK1205024090 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 11 May 90*

[Text] In Ho Chi Minh City, from 3 to 11 May, the Standing Committee of the Military Commission of the

Party Central Committee and the Ministry of National Defense jointly held a conference of senior military cadres to study and thoroughly understand the resolution of the eighth plenum of the party Central Committee. General Le Duc Anh, member of the Political Bureau and minister of national defense, and other members of the Military Commission Standing Committee presided over the conference.

Showing high political sensitivity and a strong will and resolve, the conference reached a high unanimity on the resolution of the eighth plenum of the party Central Committee, which stated that the struggle to defend and develop socialism is unfolding fiercely, but they believed socialism will certainly surmount trials, overcome difficulties step by step, and continue to advance.

The conference had the honor of welcoming Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh, who delivered an address. The general secretary made a profound analysis of some issues to clarify the party Central Committee's remarks on and assessments of domestic and international situations and on the imperialist scheme to abolish socialism and its negative effects on our country. He devoted much time to clearly pointing out the urgent tasks to be carried out by our entire party, people, and Army in the current situation to successfully realize the cause of renovation and to firmly defend and build the socialist Vietnamese fatherland. The comrade general secretary asked the party Central Committee's Military Commission and the Ministry of National Defense to work together with party committee echelons and commanders of all units in the entire Army to actively participate in building the various mass organizations, including the war veterans associations, especially at the grass-roots level, in order to contribute to successfully implementing the various party resolutions and state positions and policies.

Vo Nguyen Giap Addresses Youth Union Delegates

BK1205033190 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 11 May 90

[Text] Yesterday, 11 May, the get-together of Hanoi, Haiphong, and Ho Chi Minh City youths who excelled in the movement to act upon Uncle Ho's instructions entered its second day. In the morning, delegates visited Dong Da ward, Hanoi University, and the Thuy Khe Leatherware Factory to compare notes on the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union and the youth movement work. In the afternoon, they met at Thang Long Hotel to exchange views on and discuss the subject of youth and the renovation process aimed at enriching family and society.

Comrade Vo Nguyen Giap, member of the party Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, paid a visit to and addressed the delegates. He expressed his wish that the youth unions at all levels be fully imbued with the motto "Independence, freedom, and socialism" chosen by Uncle Ho; bring into play their patriotic spirit, their love of socialism, and self-reliance;

ceaselessly strive to improve themselves through study and training; and contribute to the efforts of other social strata to take the country forward. At the meeting, the delegates concentrated on discussing the question of the youth union contributing to the administration's efforts in promoting production and business activities, the role of youth unions and students in schools, the rallying of youths for youth union activities, the youth unions' role in import-export management, and the building of models of volunteers and assault youth organizations in carrying out Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union work.

Red Cross President Holds News Conference

BK1105160590 Hanoi VNA in English 1520 GMT 10 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 10—Mario Villarroel Lander, president of the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, briefed the press here this afternoon on his three-day visit to Vietnam.

Mario Villarroel Lander expressed his thanks to Vietnamese Government and Red Cross Society for their hospitality and cordiality reserved for him and his party. He said although Vietnam still suffers from poverty and natural calamities, the Vietnam Red Cross Society has operated very actively, greatly contributing to the provision of emergency relief aids to the needy, timely assistance to the helpless aged and [words indistinct] to the poor people.

Lander said his league is formulating a plan to provide financial assistance to the Vietnamese society and will further increase coordination of action with it.

The same day, the Vietnamese State Council conferred the Friendship Order on Mario Villarroel Lander.

During his stay, the Red Cross League president was cordially received by Vice-Chairman of the Vietnamese Council of Ministers Nguyen Khanh.

Report on Rice in Mekong River Delta Province

BK1305082590 Hanoi VNA in English 0745 GMT 13 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 12—The Mekong River Delta province of Dong Thap harvested 700,000 [metric] tons of paddy in the freshly-closed winter-spring crop, some 100,000 tons more than the same crop last year. The province has therefore recorded five successive good crops over the past years.

After south Vietnam's liberation 15 years ago, the province unceasingly raised its foodgrain output from 464,000 tons in 1976 to 526,000 tons in 1980. Particularly over the past three years, the province's rice production has been markedly increased from 674,000 tons in 1987 to 870,000 in 1988 and 1,150,000 in 1989. It is expected to reach 1,300,000 tons this year.

These achievements result from the better exploitation of the Plain of Reeds and the improvement of irrigation and drainage. Nearly 200 canals with a total length of some 160 km have been dug to bring water from the Mekong River to wash off the aluminous soil. Hundreds of thousands of new settlers have reclaimed large wasteland areas for crops cultivation. Dong Thap's development is also attributed to new managerial mechanism of

agricultural production in which due attention is attached to farmers' interests and to the use of material incentives.

At present, two thirds of the province's rural communes can redress the balance of budgets by themselves without central or provincial support. Many schools, clinics and shops have been built to further improve the material and cultural life of the local people.